Who Can Help You?

If you have any concerns and wish to speak to someone this chart may help.

**Who Can I talk to?**

Classroom Teacher

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**Team Leader**
Lainee Barwise

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**Leading Teachers**
Tammie Thompson
Adam Macpherson

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**Principal**
Mr Kevin Enright

**Vice Principal**
Nicole Fridey
Debbie Galvin
The 2015 Grade 1 Team

Team Leaders: Mrs Lainee Barwise

1B    Mrs Lainee Barwise
1PW   Mrs Athena Petalas &
       Mrs Hannah Wilkinson
1F    Miss Megan Farrow
1LD   Mrs Robyne Luketic &
       Mrs Erin Douglas
Bell Times

The bag bell rings at 8.45am, please remember there are no staff on duty prior to this in the playground

At 8.45am children should organise themselves and their belongings to start their day.

Each morning encourage your child to:

- hang up their own bag,
- place their lunch order in the tub,
- hand in notes,
- place Home Reader / Homework books
- in delegated place,
- return library books etc.

Although it may be tempting to “hurry them along”, please do not do these tasks for your child. This is all part of the “learning experience and developing independence through the organisation key to life.”
Assessment

- 2014 December Student Assessment allows teachers to begin programs early in the year.
- Assessment is ongoing, formal and informal. It is an integral component of the curriculum.
- This assessment will also identify children who may require additional assistance and teachers will organise Individual Learning Plans to assist these students.
We ask all parents assisting in our school programs to obtain the WWC Check in line with our school policy.

This check enables you to volunteer with our students in classroom activities, excursions, swimming programs, sporting events and camps.

**Working With Children's Check** forms can be obtained from our office or post office and need to be submitted at a post office. There is no cost involved. A Receipt of lodgement needs to be sent to the office and WCC card will be sent to your house.

Once the **Working With Children’s Check** has been obtained this will be kept in your child’s file and will be relevant for the duration of your child’s time at APS.

All assisting parents (Excursions, sport events, school grounds) must wear their **Working With Children's Check** must be visible at all times.
Classroom Assistance

Your assistance is welcomed in our classrooms. Parents assisting in the literacy program will need to participate in a Parent Helpers Program.

A note will be sent home early in Term 1 seeking assistance.

If you are able to assist in any other way, please see the classroom teacher.
Children begin their day with a two hour literacy block – 1 hour reading and 1 hour writing.

The structure of literacy sessions commences with a whole class focus, group or independent work, followed by reflection time.

Please note, literacy sessions will be timetabled according to the specialist timetable.
Classroom Libraries/
Independent Reading

- Classroom libraries have a range of text types.
- Students are taught to choose *Just Right Books*.
- Students have a personal selection of *Just Right Books* to enjoy during independent reading time.
- Teachers conference with students or take small groups during this time.
Catering for Individual Learning Needs

Reading Recovery / Individual Learning Plans

If your child is participating in the Reading Recovery Program or has been placed on an Individual Learning Program (ILP) they will have personalised homework.

This homework takes priority.
Writer’s Note Book

Please remember to send artefacts in each week that may be inspirational for the students writing. Examples include movie tickets, a photo of a place or person, an item collected at different venues, an interesting quote, article or poem, an interesting object, a ticket stub from a concert or sports event, a letter/card or invitation, a medal or ribbon that has been won. Please note, however, that these artefacts will be in their Writer’s Notebook for the duration of the year.
Spelling

- Over the year the students will be taught a variety of strategies which will assist them with learning new words. They will also be involved in spelling investigations focusing on onset and rimes, letter blends, words within words and chunks.

- In Term 2 the children will also practise words using the LOOK, SAY, NAME, COVER, WRITE, CHECK strategy.
Look, Say, Name, Cover, Write, Check

- During Term 2, the Look, Say, Name, Cover, Write, Check strategy will be used for students to practise the High Frequency Words at home as a part of their homework.

- The students will be practising the strategy during Term 1 at school.
Numeracy Program

- Children are placed in needs based groups and have a daily one hour numeracy block.
- Groups change regularly according to the concept being taught and the needs of the children.
- Children will gain an understanding of numeracy through open ended tasks, problem solving and relating these to real life situations.
Integrated Studies

- **Term 1** – All about me
- **Term 2** – Mini Beasts
- **Term 3** – Past and Present
- **Term 4** – Five Senses
Excursions

- Excursions and incursions support the classroom program and are related to the integrated unit of work.
- An expression of interest will go out prior to the excursion for parent helpers.
Excursion or Incursion Costs

Estimated Costs

- Term 1 – NIL
- Term 2 – Incursions approx. $12
- Term 3 – Werribee Mansion approx. $18.00
- Term 4 – Swimming $56

Please be advised these are approximations of the expected cost. 😊
The Grade 1 Swimming Program will run during Term 4 at Sweeney’s Swim School located on Pier Street in Altona.

The children will attend lessons once a week over an 8 week period. Further information will follow during Term 3.
Homework

- The Government’s homework recommendation for grade 1 is half an hour per night.
- Children will focus on take home reading and a learning task.
- You will be informed each term regarding the homework tasks to be completed.
- Please read all of the information in your child’s homework book.
- Homework will be given out on a Monday and needs to be completed and returned each Thursday.
Home Reading

- Home reading should be a daily task. Please record your child’s book title, date and signature.
- Home reading is an opportunity for your child to practise fluency and expression and should be an easy read. This is to ensure they can practise the strategies that are taught at school without struggling.
- Home reading books should be kept in the student’s mail bag and bought to school each day.
Home reading books are meant to be enjoyable and not difficult. The books selected are to develop fluency, expression and confidence.

It is also important to discuss the story with your child and question them about what is happening. This will assist with comprehension (understanding).
## Sample of Reading Log

**Read Read Read**

**I love to read!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Book Title</th>
<th>Please initial each time the book has been read.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18/12</td>
<td>The frog</td>
<td>TT ST TT TT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The rabbit</td>
<td>ST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My friends</td>
<td>ST TT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I love school</td>
<td>TT ST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dump trucks</td>
<td>TT ST TT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Home Reading

- To develop good reading practices students are encouraged to read each night with an adult. Students are not expected to read every book each night.

- During reading and after reading, please discuss the text with your child to develop their comprehension. Refer to your child’s reading log for further questioning prompts.
We thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to developing a successful partnership with you in 2015.

The Grade One Team 😊