Grade 1 Frequently Asked Questions
2015

Topic: Homework

When does my child receive their homework and when is it due in?
Homework goes out on Mondays and is to be completed and returned to school on Thursdays.

Topic: Home Reading

How many take home books does my child get each week and does my child need to read each night?
Your child needs to take home 4 books each week and they need to read however many you see fit. Students should be reading every night, but depending on the length of the book and the extra-curricular activities they may be involved in, this is to your own discretion.

When does my child change their weekly take home books?
On Mondays. Teachers will check that the student’s reading logs have been signed each time they have read a book and they will also be rewarded for doing their reading at home.

Why is my child’s take home book too easy?
The students home reading books are normally a level below what they are reading with the teacher at school. This is a time for them to be practising the strategies they learn at school.
What are mailbags for?
All students were given mail bag at the beginning of the year. This mailbag is used to hold their home reading journal/log as well as their home reading books. Any notes going home will be placed inside students mailbags. It is extremely important that parents check their child’s mailbags every day to ensure they are receiving all correspondence from school. Mailbags need to be kept inside student’s school bags as they are required at school everyday.

I’ve filled in a note that is required, where do I put it?
It’s important that you give your child the responsibility to hand in notes. Each teacher has a ‘post box’ located in a position in their room. Students should put all correspondence from home in the ‘post box’.

How do I access the school newsletter and other notes?
If you would like to receive a hard copy newsletter there was a form attached to the week 2 newsletter and the form can be returned to your child’s classroom teacher and a hard copy newsletter will be sent home each Thursday. Alternatively, if you would like to subscribe to have the newsletter emailed to you each week, you can do so via the school website. www.altonaps.vic.edu.au

I have something important to tell my child’s teacher. When is the best time to do this?
Teachers are always willing to make time to have discussions with parents. If it is something minor you may like to speak to your child’s teacher before or after school, however, if it is a topic that may require more than a few minutes conversation, it is best to make an appointment time so that the teacher can give their undivided attention to conversation. You can arrange an appointment time with the teacher before or after school or alternatively you can contact them via the school office phone on 9398 2925.
When do parent helpers start?
Parent helpers who haven't completed the Parent Education Program will start in Term 2. Your child's teacher will notify you when parents who have completed previous years courses will be commencing.

Do I need a Working With Children Check to assist in the classroom?
All parent helpers need a Working with Children’s Check to help out in the classroom. This must be displayed at all times when you are working in school. Working With Children Check Forms can be obtained from the Post Office and are free of charge for all volunteers.

How do lunch orders work?
You can find the lunch order list on the Altona P.S. website. On a paper bag clearly write down your child’s name and class name along with what you would like to order. Please try to enclose the correct amount of money. Students should put their lunch order in the lunch order tub first thing in the morning.

Do students have the option of purchasing a smooze?
Yes, the cost is $1 and they can be purchased on Wednesday’s during Term 1 and Term 4.

Can I bring in something special for my child’s birthday to share with the students?
Definitely! We encourage students to bring healthy options to share with their peers when celebrating their birthday.

Is APS a Sun Smart School?
Yes we are. Students are required to wear a school hat during all outside activities in Term 1 and 4. The school cannot supply sunscreen to students but we encourage students to come to school with sunscreen on and reapply throughout the day.
How are students supervised while they are playing outside during snack and lunch?
The playgrounds are broken up into three areas. There is a member of staff on duty in each of these areas. Staff members are required to wear a fluro yellow vest so that they are easily identifiable to students. All grades have discussed what the Yard Duty teacher vest looks like and how to approach the Yard Duty teacher for help.

Any further questions please see the grade 1 classroom teachers! 😊