

# Altona Primary School Newsletter



12th FEBRUARY 2024: TERM 1 WEEK 3



## Principal's Report

It is hard to believe we are already beginning our third week for 2024. Our first fortnight saw our Grade 1-6 students settle back in seamlessly as they revisited classroom expectations and reconnected with their peers and teachers. We also had the pleasure of welcoming our Prep students who have completed their entry assessments and enjoyed their first week of school. It has been great to catch up with so many members of our community over the past two weeks and such a delight to get to know the new faces in our school.

2024 is set to be another year of rigorous and engaging learning at APS, with wellbeing and community connection being a continued priority. Your classroom teacher or our administration team in the office will often be your first point of contact, but please don't hesitate to get in touch with either of our Assistant Principals, Nicole Fridey and Tim Jenkins, or myself if you ever have questions, concerns or feedback.

### SWIMMING PROGRAM 2024

This week we commence our swimming program, with our Grade 2s, 3s and 4s heading to Sweeney's for a session each week. Swimming continues to be a valuable part of our curriculum and this year it will not come at a cost to families as we are able to subsidise this with remaining funds that were allocated in years that swimming was disrupted by Covid.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL

We have called for nominations for our 2024-2025 School Council, with five vacancies in the parent category to fill. If you are interested in becoming a part of our council, nomination forms need to be submitted before 4pm, Thursday the 15th February.

## Dates to Remember

12th February

Grade 2 swimming commences

13th February

Grade 3/4 swimming commences

15th February

Grade 3/4 Lord Somers Incursion

15th and 22nd February

Parent Education Sessions

19th-21st February

Grade 6 CAMP

11th March

Public Holiday

12th March

School Photos

13th March - 22nd March

NAPLAN

28th March

Last Day of Term 1

2.30 Dismissal

PLEASE CHECK THE CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL OTHER DATES



## LUNCHTIME AND RECESS CLUBS

This year we will be introducing a variety of clubs which will run at recess and lunchtimes. Last week, our senior dance club commenced and this week we will introduce Lego club. Clubs will provide an opportunity for students to have an option to retreat from the school yard at the breaks while engaging in an alternative organised activity. You may have seen a 'call out' for donations of Lego and we would greatly appreciate any that you may be willing to part with.

## PARENT EDUCATION SESSIONS

Over the coming two Thursday mornings, our Parent Education sessions will be facilitated by our Assistant Principals. These sessions not only enable those that attend to support in our classroom environments, but provide an insight into our approach to Literacy and Numeracy and teach skills that can be used at home when supporting children. If you are interested in attending, but have not yet indicated this, information has been posted to Compass.

## 2024 ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND PRIORITIES

Our school's Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) outlines the improvement priorities for the coming year. Goals and targets are set based on those in the School Strategic Plan, along with measures of performance in student achievement data and survey results. This year, we will continue to focus on our key priorities of improving numeracy outcomes and improving student wellbeing. We will share our progress and outcomes through the year as data sets become available. If you'd like to hear more about our school performance, you are encouraged to attend our School Council Annual General Meeting later in March (date to be confirmed through Compass).



## ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

We have noticed that a large amount of children are arriving in the morning before the school yard is supervised. A reminder that our yard is not supervised until 8.45am and at this time, the supervision is of the synthetic courts in the middle of the school.

Any students arriving prior to 8.45am, should be supervised by a parent/carer, or alternatively attending the before care service. Our school oval, soccer pitch and playgrounds are off limits for any children who are arriving prior to 8.45am. Our central synthetic courts are supervised from 8.45-9am and should be the only place students are gathered or playing before school begins.

Our gates are currently being opened at 8.30am to support arrival at school for families. If your child is travelling to school without an adult, please reconsider the time they are leaving to coincide with an 8.45am arrival at school to ensure their safety and our duty of care.

## NEW TOILET BLOCK

You may have noticed that our new toilet block was landed onsite over the break and after some initial 'hiccups' our Grade 5 and Grade 6 students are now able to use the facility. We are still waiting on some grounds works to be finalised around the space, but already we are seeing the benefits of our students having access to facilities in closer proximity to their classrooms. While these toilets have been allocated for our senior students, if our younger students are needing to access these with urgency in the breaks, they will be able to use them, with the same in place for the other toilet block.



## FRIENDS AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE

Our FFC continues to be an active committee who work to plan and deliver experiences for our students and community. Along with this they support fundraising opportunities that enrich our school resources and grounds. Over the last two years, the work of the committee has seen the development of the Gaga Pit and replacement of the Spider playground, among other things. This year, there are plans to develop a new sandpit area, install beach style huts for play and street libraries across the school. The committee needs the support of parents and community members for it to continue and welcomes new members at any stage. You can be as actively or minimally involved as your schedule allows. The committee will have its first meeting of the year on Tuesday the 20th February at 9am in the staffroom for anyone who is interested in finding out what is planned for the year and how you might be able to support.

With such a great start to the year, I am looking forward to a successful year of learning at APS. I hope to see those of you who I haven't already at some stage soon.

Sarah Afiouni  
Principal

## ANNUAL PRIVACY REMINDER



Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) and the [Schools' Privacy Collection Notice](#). Our [Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy](#) describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education](#) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents](#). This information is also available in ten community languages: Amharic, Arabic, Dari, Gujarati, Mandarin, Somali, Sudanese, Turkish, Urdu and Vietnamese

## COMMUNICATION AT APS

**COMPASS:** Ongoing communication. Newsfeed items contain reminders and timely information. All payments and consent for events and activities are made through Compass.

**NEWSLETTER:** Reports what is happening and coming up at APS. Published fortnightly via Compass and the school website.

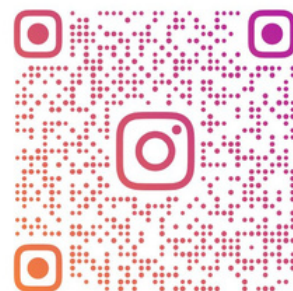
**YEAR LEVEL NEWSLETTERS:** Outlines the learning program of each year level. Published twice per term.

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:** Information about the school, parent info and whole school calendar.

**INSTAGRAM:** Visual reminders and photographic updates. Posts updated weekly.



@altonaPrimaryschool



ALTONAPRIMARYSCHOOL







# SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Our school and house captains were announced last year and this year have taken on their roles with great enthusiasm. Already, school captains have taken on the important job of leading our whole school assemblies and our House captains decided to continue running icy pole Thursdays as it is enjoyed by all. Along with this, the captain group have shared some great ideas that they hope to implement this year to further enhance the school experience for all students and build connections and pride across the school.

## SCHOOL CAPTAINS:

Maya, Helina and Cristian

## HOUSE CAPTAINS:

**BORRACK:** Ayra and Spencer

**BROMLEY:** Maddie and Jonas

**FLEMING:** Lottie and Aarav

**ENRIGHT:** Kiki and Will

**BLYTH:** Amelia and Viaan



# STUDENT VOICE LEADERS

Our Student Voice Leaders for Semester 1, 2024 were announced at our assembly last week. Students across the school nominated themselves for these roles which was then taken to a peer vote in each class. Congratulations to the following students who will represent their class to share ideas and raise awareness of school related issues with the leadership team to support school improvement:

1T: Ivy  
1D: Kiern  
1R: Melba  
2I: Livinia  
2M: Aaron  
2WB: Maya  
34R: Gloria  
34G: Parker  
34PJ: Rosie



34Y: Clementine  
34B: Scarlett  
34CG: Dex  
5V: Alex  
5A: Annie  
5HM: Kunal  
6M: Avery  
6XC: Kira  
6L: Aryan



# Upcoming Webinar Neurodiversity: Supporting Children



“DIFFERENT, NOT LESS”

THIS WEBINAR WILL COVER:

- THE BASICS OF PROVIDING NEURODIVERSITY AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN
- UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEURODIVERGENT EXPERIENCE
- PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR PROVIDING AFFIRMING AND SUPPORTIVE CARE FOR ANY NEURODIVERSE CHILD

SUITABLE FOR ANY PARENTS, CAREGIVERS, TEACHERS OR ANYONE WORKING WITH NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN

1 Hour session

15th February 2024  
7pm

\$39 + booking fee

SCAN  
ME!



Payments are to be made by credit card via Eventbrite

If you are wanting to claim payment through NDIS, please contact your LAC or Plan Manager directly to see if this is possible.



# Executive Functioning in Teens Webinar

**1 HOUR SESSION**  
**14TH MARCH 2024 7PM**

**\$39 + BOOKING FEE**



## GOALS FOR OUR SESSION

- Do you think your Teenager is struggling with executive functioning?
- Are they often forgetting their homework? Are they struggling with their exams? Are they able to balance their school work and extracurricular activities?
- This webinar will introduce you to executive functioning and how it impacts teenagers. We will be discussing time management, working memory, planning, organisation, stress management and more.

Payments are to be made by credit card via Eventbrite

If you are wanting to claim payment through NDIS, please contact your LAC or Plan Manager directly to see if this is possible.





# HOOK in 2 HOCKEY!

**COME & TRY FOR FREE**

Monday Feb 19<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday Feb 21<sup>st</sup> 2024  
5.30 - 6.30pm at Altona Hockey Club

### What Is It?

- Introduction to Hockey
- For Girls & Boys from 5 to 12 years
- Skill based games
- 6 Sessions - 1st session is free
- Official program of Hockey Australia

### Get Involved

All welcome to come & try!  
6 sessions on either a Monday or Wednesday evening.  
For more information contact:  
juniors@altonahc.org.au



Altona Hockey Club | altonahc.org.au | Sugargum Drive Altona



## END OF YEAR SALE!

BOOK ANY PARTY PACKAGE BEFORE JANUARY 31ST AND RECEIVE A FREE PARTY THEME FOR 10 KIDS VALUED AT \$75.

\*\$4 PER EXTRA CHILD AFTER THE FIRST 10\*\*

USE CODE "THEME23" WHEN BOOKING ONLINE OR BY PHONE

### CHOOSE A PARTY PACKAGE:

#### STANDARD \$300 - 10 KIDS

\$30 PER ADDITIONAL CHILD  
90 MIN ROOM HIRE  
30 MINS PLAY AFTER ROOM HIRE  
HOT FOOD CHOICE  
UNLIMITED CORDIAL & WATER  
FAIRY BREAD & CHEEZELS  
CUPS & PLATES  
ADULTS TABLE FOR 10

#### PLATINUM \$360 - 10 KIDS

\$36 PER ADDITIONAL CHILD  
90 MIN ROOM HIRE  
30 MINS PLAY AFTER ROOM HIRE  
HOT FOOD CHOICE  
UNLIMITED CORDIAL & WATER  
FAIRY BREAD & CHEEZELS  
CUPS & PLATES  
ADULTS TABLE FOR 10  
+ PARTY HOST  
+ MINI GAMES

#### SPORTS \$330 - 10 KIDS

+ 2 HOURS PARTY HOST  
HOT FOOD CHOICE  
UNLIMITED CORDIAL & WATER  
FAIRY BREAD & CHEEZELS  
CUPS & PLATES  
ADULTS TABLE FOR 10

### CHOOSE A PARTY THEME:



PRINCESS THEME



SUPERHERO THEME



JUNGLE THEME



FANTASY THEME

**+\$75 FREE\***

USE CODE "THEME23" WHEN BOOKING ONLINE OR BY PHONE

## WE ARE THE PHOENIX

YOUR CLUB, OUR COMMUNITY



**JOIN NOW!**

TRAINING TUESDAY & THURSDAYS FROM 5:30PM

BOYS & GIRLS TEAMS

AGE GROUPS 5-15 YEARS



WWW.ALTONAEASTSC.COM.AU

