

# Altona Primary School Newsletter



21st July 2023: TERM 3 WEEK 2



## Principal's Report

We have had a great beginning to Term 3. Students have returned to Semester 2 engaged and ready to learn. Teachers have spent time analysing student performance from Semester 1, established goals and have collaboratively planned to ensure instruction is focused at all learners' point of need. We have a very focused and rigorous term ahead.

It was encouraging to see so many of parents/carers meet with the teachers this week at our interviews to share in the learning partnership. My thanks to everyone who was able to attend.

### NAPLAN RESULTS

This week, NAPLAN results have been released for Grade 3 and Grade 5 students. This year, the reporting process has been changed with results now presented in four proficiency levels: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs Additional Support, rather than the former performance bands. These changes have been introduced nationally by the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA). Individual results will be sent home with students in Grade 3 and 5 on Monday next week, along with further information around the new reporting process.

The data that we receive from these assessments provides us with an indication of our school's performance, along with our strengths and areas for improvement.

Very pleasingly, our school performance shows that we have higher percentages of students with Exceeding and Strong performance when compared with 'Similar Schools' and local 'Network Schools' across all tests (Reading, Writing, Numeracy, Spelling and Grammar/Punctuation) in both Grade 3 and Grade 5. A snapshot of our results appears further in the newsletter.

## Dates to Remember

24th July, 31st July, 7th August,  
14th August

Grade 5 and 6 swimming

31st July

PREP 100th DAY AT SCHOOL

2nd August

District Athletics

14th-18th August

Science Week

21st-25th August

Book Week

22nd August

Junior (P-2) Athletics Day

15th September

End of Term 3

2.30pm Dismissal

2nd October

Term 4 commences

6th November

Curriculum Day

7th November

Melbourne Cup Public Holiday



## ENROLMENTS FOR 2024

Prep enrolments continue to be received and it has been a privilege to tour prospective families around our fabulous school. Enrolment applications for anyone residing outside of our school zone will close on the 28th of July (next week). All other enrolments (siblings and new families within the zone) are also anticipated to be received by this date to enable us to plan and deliver our transition program. If you know of anyone who is due to enrol, please let them know.

## SCHOOL VALUE IN FOCUS

For the first half of this term, our value in focus is Responsibility. Classes will look closely at the behaviours connected to this value and how this contributes to enabling a safe and productive learning environment. We will continue to acknowledge students exhibiting our values through our weekly awards at assembly and classrooms have individual systems to identify the values being demonstrated.

Responsibility at APS is:

- being safe and speaking up if we see something that isn't safe.
- being organised and looking after our belongings and our environment.
- being a positive role model for others.
- being accountable for our own actions and learning.



## NAIDOC WEEK

In the first week of this term, we acknowledged NAIDOC week in our classrooms. Students engaged in learning experiences that acknowledged and celebrated the histories, cultures and achievement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Each class also spent time creating a piece of a large WOMINJEKA display that we are creating for our front hallway.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our school uniform is compulsory at APS and exhibits a sense of school pride and belonging. Uniform items are available all year round through DCS uniforms at Double C Jeanery in Laverton. A reminder that dark grey or purple bottoms are required. Items that do not have a school logo (pants, skorts and shorts) can be sourced from other stores but please ensure that these are of a dark/charcoal grey colour and not light grey or black.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS?

Twice a term, our teachers will publish a year level overview which will be made available through Compass. Year levels will have already made this available in the first week of term, with another to be published in the middle of the term. This outlines the areas that will be covered in Reading, Writing, Mathematics and Inquiry, along with other information specific to the year level. If at any stage you have questions about your child/ren's learning, please don't hesitate to make contact with the school.

## BOOK WEEK - DRESS UP DAY

I can confirm that we will have a dress up day for Book Week this year, to be held during Week 7 this term (21st-25th August). Students will be encouraged to come dressed as their favourite book character, or a reference to their favourite book. Once details of this are finalised, we will communicate the exact day and time through Compass.

Have a great fortnight everyone.

Sarah

# ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL NAPLAN PERFORMANCE 2023

We are very proud to share our NAPLAN results. Across all tests we have a large percentage of students with proficiency levels of Exceeding or Strong. These results are above similar schools and network schools\*.

\*Similar schools are schools from across Melbourne that have a similar socio-economic demographic and enrolment size to ours.

## READING

### Grade 3

Exceeding or Strong students in 2023 (%)

For students in Year 3, Reading

**85%**  
Your school

**82%**  
Similar

**73%**  
Network

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 3, Reading



### Grade 5

Exceeding or Strong students in 2023 (%)

For students in Year 5, Reading

**92%**  
Your school

**89%**  
Similar

**83%**  
Network

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 5, Reading



## WRITING

### Grade 3

Exceeding or Strong students in 2023 (%)

For students in Year 3, Writing

**90%**  
Your school

**89%**  
Similar

**80%**  
Network

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 3, Writing



### Grade 5

Exceeding or Strong students in 2023 (%)

For students in Year 5, Writing

**95%**  
Your school

**86%**  
Similar

**82%**  
Network

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 5, Writing



## NUMERACY

### Grade 3

Exceeding or Strong students in 2023 (%)

For students in Year 3, Numeracy

**84%**  
Your school

**82%**  
Similar

**71%**  
Network

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 3, Numeracy



### Grade 5

Exceeding or Strong students in 2023 (%)

For students in Year 5, Numeracy

**92%**  
Your school

**82%**  
Similar

**75%**  
Network

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 5, Numeracy



## LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

### SPELLING

#### Grade 3

Exceeding or Strong students in 2023 (%)

For students in Year 3, Spelling

**70%**  
Your school

**70%**  
Similar

**68%**  
Network

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 3, Spelling



#### Grade 5

Exceeding or Strong students in 2023 (%)

For students in Year 5, Spelling

**88%**  
Your school

**78%**  
Similar

**80%**  
Network

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 5, Spelling



#### Grade 3

Exceeding or Strong students in 2023 (%)

For students in Year 3, Grammar and Punctuation

**75%**  
Your school

**71%**  
Similar

**61%**  
Network

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 3, Grammar and Punctuation



#### Grade 5

Exceeding or Strong students in 2023 (%)

For students in Year 5, Grammar and Punctuation

**88%**  
Your school

**77%**  
Similar

**71%**  
Network

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 5, Grammar and Punctuation



**17 students attained a performance proficiency of 'Exceeding' across 4 of the 5 assessments**  
**7 students attained a performance proficiency of 'Exceeding' across all 5 assessments**





# VALUES AWARDS WEEK 1 AND 2

## FOCUS VALUE: RESPONSIBILITY



# STUDENT VOICE LEADERS

Congratulations to the following students who self nominated and were then chosen by their peers to be our new student voice leaders for Semester 2, 2023:

- Archie - Prep H
- Samaira - Prep F
- Thomas - Prep S
- Kou - 1T
- Charli - 1P
- Penny - 1DW
- Lukas - 2I
- Nate - 2M
- Mila - 2B
- Aaron - 34Y
- Charlie 34G



- Henry - 34B
- Antonio - 34K
- Layla - 34PB
- Amelie - 34R
- Rosie - 34HM
- Cristian - 5V
- Lottie - 5ML
- Aarav - 5A
- Chiyoka - 6T
- Violet - 6SW
- Millie - 6L

Our Student Voice Leaders will continue to meet regularly to discuss school wide issues, initiatives and improvements. Our Semester 1 voice leaders were successful in initiating two fundraisers for charities through Pyjama Day and out of uniform day and have provided great insight into areas that the school leadership team have explored as needs and considerations for improvement, both in their learning opportunities and ideas for our school grounds. They were able to source donations for our grounds and have initiated a project to build a set of beach huts for our students to enjoy within our yard... watch this space!



Across the school, students completed writing tasks in response to Naidoc Week. Here is a Grade 5 and a Grade Prep piece

I think we all know that once upon a time, the Indigenous people of Australia and the Torres Strait Islands were harshly discriminated against, and that was seriously wrong. But after a couple of protests and complaints, they finally earned the respect they deserved.

In the early 1930's, many Australians pleaded for help from the government, asking to change some laws that put the Aboriginals at a disadvantage only to be flicked away and informed that they didn't have the legal rights to do so.

Nevertheless, being told 'no' wasn't going to stop them. On the 29th of January 1938, hundreds of Australians gathered in the streets of Sydney, protesting about how Australia day, or Invasion day was not something to be celebrated. The impactful protest was followed by a meeting that about 1,000 people attended. That date was quickly named 'The Day of Mourning'.

And after that, did they stop protesting? Nope.

On every Sunday before Invasion day, the protesters would come together and parade around, demanding the rights that they were missing.

A little bit after that, William Cooper, An Indigenous leader representing the Aboriginals and the Islanders tried asking for help, as many others did, but also seemed to be discarded.

You might have thought that the protests and questions slipped from the government's mind, but not at all did they brush them aside. They moved Aboriginals day to the Sunday before Invasion day, almost hinting the celebrators that that day was not one to be parted about.

After a bit of thinking, Aboriginal's day was decided to form into a celebration. And after that? NADOC week was created in the year 1965. NADOC stood for National Aboriginals Day Observance Committee. Now, a lot of people clearly asked "What about the Indigenous Torres Strait Islanders? They're disrespected too." Well, the government took THAT into consideration, and they added in an 'I', representing 'Islanders'

So now, the updated acronym is read 'NAIDOC!'

NAIDOC week is a week-long celebration of Indigenous culture. There are NAIDOC awards for Aboriginals who have done amazing things and different themes for each year's week.

The theme for 2023's NAIDOC week is appreciation for the Indigenous Elders.

By Avery Nilsson, 5A

long long ago in the  
dream time there  
were aboriginal  
was abrigini pépé  
They were sitting  
near the kámp Firi  
me they were all  
going fishing then  
the fish came  
back to the kam fire  
Then they saw  
kangaroo <sup>was</sup> Then  
a person caught  
a snake.

Then a person  
got his boomerang  
out they caught  
a moving kangaroo  
and brang the  
kangaroo back to  
the kamp fire stop  
\*next writing 100%

# Child Care Subsidy Fact Sheet



More families can now access cheaper child care with TheirCare!

- ▶ Families who were previously not eligible for CCS may now be eligible.
- ▶ A higher rate of CCS is available for most families that do access CCS.

From 10 July 2023, the Australian Government is changing the Child Care Subsidy (CCS).

## What you need to know:

- The family income limit to be eligible for CCS is increasing from \$356,756 to \$530,000 per annum.
- The maximum amount of CCS is increasing from 85% to 90% for families earning \$80,000 or less.
- Families earning between \$80,000 and \$530,000 will receive an increased CCS rate.
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children can get at least 36 subsidised hours of early childhood education and care per fortnight, regardless of their family's activity level.

## What you need to do:

- **Not currently registered for CCS?** If your family earns below \$530,000, you may be entitled to CCS from 10 July. You should check your eligibility now. Create a Centrelink online account through myGov or the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app.
- **Already get CCS?** You don't need to do anything to get the new rates. Services Australia will apply CCS changes automatically for you from 10 July.
- **Do you have an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander child?** You can access at least 36 hours of subsidised care per fortnight, by contacting Services Australia on 136 150 to update your child's CCS details. It is voluntary for you to tell Services Australia this.
- **Need extra support with child care fees?** If you are eligible for CCS and meet certain criteria you may also be eligible for Additional Child Care Subsidy

Learn more

[www.theircare.com.au/ccs/](http://www.theircare.com.au/ccs/)

Have a question?

Please call TheirCare's Customer Support Team on 1300 072 410





# CODING at

## Altona Primary

While many jobs of the future are yet to be even imagined the future of work undoubtedly points in the direction of the technology space. This coding course using the Scratch application will introduce students to the world of coding in a fun and engaging way. Experienced coaches will guide students through a series of hands-on lessons with real world applications.



**ENROL  
ONLINE  
NOW!**

**CONTACT US  
FOR TRIALS**



**TUESDAY, 3:20 - 4:20 PM**

**STARTS ON 18 JUL**

**RUNS FOR 8 SESSIONS**

**FOR YEARS 2 - 4**

**ROOM: ROOM 5**

**DEVICES: SCHOOL/STUDENT SUPPLIED**

**Scan or click  
the QR code  
to enrol  
online!**



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**YOUNG ENGINEERS** Australia

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# Engineering & Robotics Advanced Robotics

## Altona Primary School

Every Monday from 17th Jul to 11th Sep 2023

Eligibility	Program Name	Time	Fee	Dates	Book online at
Yr 1 - 2	Build up	3:30 to 4:45 pm	\$225	17/07 -11/09	<a href="http://www.trybooking.com/BWONZ">www.trybooking.com/BWONZ</a>
Yr 3 - 6	Engineering & Robotics	3:30 to 4:45 pm	\$225	17/07 - 11/09	<a href="http://www.trybooking.com/BWONZ">www.trybooking.com/BWONZ</a>



From Sustainable farming to self-driving cars, **Advanced Engineering & Robotics** model a range of real-world situations that teach students a complete understanding of how the technology works and used to solve the issue at hand. The engineering lessons engage kids with a hands-on learning environment and immerse them in the applications and possibilities of modern technologies. Through PBL (Project-based learning), students combine hardware, Lego® compatible building blocks, and coding to create a prototype and solve real-world problems. The projects are designed to encourage students to invent other viable solutions to these real-world issues and explore ways to utilize existing technology. The completion of these projects will boost confidence and create problem solving ability in students to overcome any challenge from working in their future jobs to solving our world's current or future problems.

**Engineering & Robotics Program** provides theoretical knowledge in software and mechanical engineering combined with mathematics and physics.

**Build-Up Program** is designed for little children where they start from learning the basics of building Lego Models including improving them and end up building models independently with a friend and enjoying group game.

**For more information, please call Chaitali on 0450 801 297**

[wsmelbourne@young-engineer.com.au](mailto:wsmelbourne@young-engineer.com.au)  
[wsmelbourne.young-engineers.com.au](http://wsmelbourne.young-engineers.com.au)



# ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL PREP 2024

## Enrolments are now open

School tours are being run for prospective families.  
Times and dates are advertised on our  
school website.

[www.altonaps.vic.edu.au](http://www.altonaps.vic.edu.au)

Enrolment forms are  
available online or  
at the school.



If you have any questions regarding enrolment, please contact the school

[altona.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:altona.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

**9398 2925**

109 Blyth Street, Altona





DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Education  
and Training

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Experience  
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**FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE SENT SOON**

[www.somerscamp.vic.edu.au](http://www.somerscamp.vic.edu.au)