



Ainslie Parklands Primary School
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ISSUE #19 | FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2024

THE AINSLIE UPDATE

DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 4 2024

16th Dec - 3/4 incursion
17th Dec - Volunteer thank you morning tea
18th Dec - Year 6 Graduation
20th Dec - Last day Term 4,
12.45pm - Assembly
1.30pm dismissal

Term 1 2025

29th Jan - Years 1-6 commence
30th Jan - Foundation commences
7th March - **STUDENT FREE DAY**
10th March - **Labour Day (STUDENT FREE)**
4th April - End of Term 1

Term 2 2025

Dates TBC - Years 4-6 Interschool Sports
20th May - District Cross Country
6th Jun - **STUDENT FREE DAY**
9th Jun - **King's Birthday (STUDENT FREE)**
4th July - End of Term 2

Term 3 2025

21st July - **STUDENT FREE DAY**
9th Sep - District Athletics
19th Sep - End of Term 3

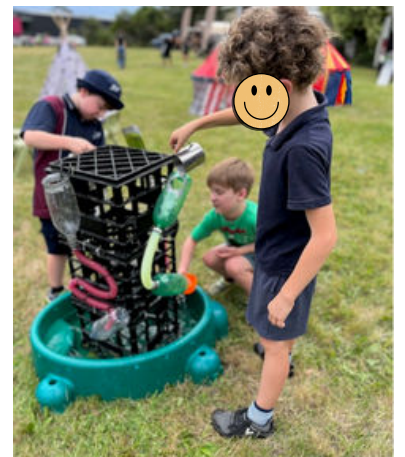
Term 4 2025

12th-14th Nov - 5/6 Camp
9th Dec - Statewide Transition Day
19th Dec - End of Term 4

Twilight Market

In spite of the weather being a bit drizzly, the Twilight Market, held last week, was a huge success!! From quality stall holders to outstanding musical performances, face painting and the excitement of the chocolate toss, the APPS Twilight Market brought our school and greater community together. The parent support from our school pulled together to deliver this event is outstanding. There are too many thank yous to mention, however we must thank Jane Bennetts for the massive undertaking in putting this event together. Thanks also to Laura Annakin, who has discovered she loves a stop sign!





Introducing our returning Year 3/4 teacher, Chantal!

Hi Everyone,

It's great to be back! It's been a few years away from APPS and a lot has changed!

As many of you haven't met me before, here's a few things you might like to know! I love learning and while I was away I completed a Master of Education and am now looking at doing a PhD.

I love nature and the beach. The ocean is incredible and so mysterious! Gardening is one of my favourite hobbies! I also enjoy podcasts, especially mysteries and historical documentaries!

My husband, two children and I love Lego and playing games, watching movies and being outside! At the moment we have two elves on the shelf playing pranks every day, which has been interesting and messy!

Have a great holiday break and be sure to come say hi when we return to school!

Kind regards,
Chantal



Introducing our new Year 3/4 teacher, Melissa!

Hi, I'm Melissa Reid and I cannot wait to join the Ainslie Parklands community! I have been teaching for over 10 years, from Foundation right up to Year 6! I'm a passionate teacher and love watching my students learn and explore new skills and concepts. When I am not at school I love taking my kids to the park or swimming. I am a big Carlton supporter and am an avid reader.



Introducing our new Year 4/5 teacher!

My name is Damon Crossley, and I am excited to be joining the Ainslie Parklands Primary School community as the new Grade 4/5 teacher for 2025. I have a wonderful family of four, including my 4-year-old son, Brooklyn, and my soon-to-be 1-year-old daughter, Sienna. In my free time, I enjoy playing basketball, cricket, and golf, and I'm a proud supporter of the Geelong Cats in the AFL. My favourite foods are BBQ and ice cream! I'm looking forward to meeting all the amazing students and families in the new year and making 2025 a memorable and rewarding year together.



Planning for 2025

To assist with planning for 2025, we ask that families who are moving schools next year please contact the office.

Farewell

We are sad to say that David will be leaving APPS at the end of 2024. We want to thank David for his great contribution to our school. The children have loved doing Sport Club with David, and staff have enjoyed his songs and poems! David would like to thank the APPS community for the welcome and support that he has received while teaching here.

We wish you the very best for the future, David!

New webpage to help families and students prepare for a new school year

A new school year is an exciting time for students and families, but it can be a big step – particularly for those starting Prep or moving to secondary school.

The Department of Education has published a webpage with resources and information to help you prepare for the new school year.

During the school holidays, please consider reading through the resources, which include:

- tips to help transition between kinder and Prep and primary to secondary school
 - what to expect at school
 - help with school costs and fees
 - health and wellbeing guidance to support children's mental health.
- Please refer to the New year of learning webpage.

Student Spotlight: Daniel M

Hi I'm Daniel,

I really like to play footy. I barrack for Collingwood. I've kicked six goals this year for Norwood. On the last few minutes of a game, I kicked two goals and my coach said to me "I don't know where to put you because you do well in every single spot!"

I have two mountain bikes and a BMX bike, but my BMX tyre is popped so I cant ride my BMX but I ride my mountain bikes. I have two motor bikes that I ride on at home. I have been learning new tricks.

About life, I think making mistakes is just part of life. Everyone makes mistakes. It is just like breaking something - you have to fix it.

Have a great Christmas!

From Daniel M.



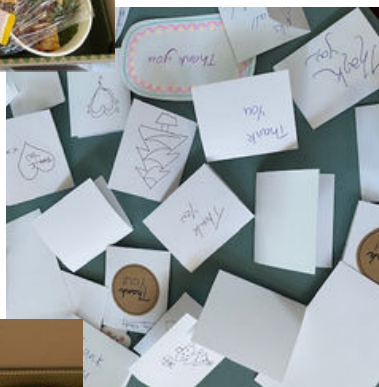
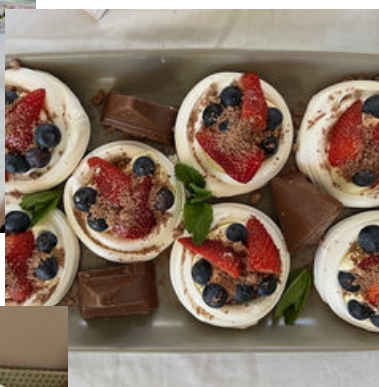
End of Year Concert

The weather was perfect for our End of Year concert. It was a relaxed event, with a beautiful community feel. The children did an outstanding job with their performances. Thanks to Jayne S for her organisation of the event (and her connections to Santa!)



Thank you lunch

We would like to express our thanks to the wonderful parents who put on a lunch for our staff to say "thank you" for the year. We have an exceptional staff at APPS, who consistently go above and beyond with the care and support they provide for our students and they were very appreciative of this this acknowledgment.



Thank you to our School Council

Our dedicated School Council meets twice per term during the school year to undertake their important role in the governance of Ainslie Parklands PS. The work of our School Council focuses on oversight of important areas such as the school finances, buildings and grounds, and school policy.

We have an outstanding school council in 2024 with excellent representation provided by parents and members of our teaching and education support staff. Working in partnership, our school council maintains a strong focus on continuous improvement and making sure that our students receive a high-quality education.

We will be holding school council elections in February 2025 and we are always on the lookout for new members to join. There are no special skills required and if you talk to any current councillor I sure they would encourage others to consider this opportunity.

On behalf of everyone in our community we want sincerely thank our school councillors for 2024:

President: Katherine Szymanski

Vice President: Jo Van Den Broek

Parent members: Querida Seip, Catherine Litchfield, Sandra Fawcett, Matthew Weatherson, David Fawcett

Staff members: Laura Annakin, Jane Humphrys, Wendy Phillips

New in 2025

We are looking forward to some upgrades at APPS in 2025. Some of these changes include:

- Providing personalised learning in a way that most other schools don't - every student at APPS will have an individualised learning plan (Individual Education Plan or IEP), identifying their current level of learning, and the strategies that we will implement to progress their learning. As we value the partnership we have with parents, this will be reviewed every term and sent home to parents to ensure parents have a good understanding of, and input into, their child's point of learning need.
- Further strengthening our Phonics Reading Program from Foundation through to Year 6, and incorporating Humanities learning (History, Geography, etc.) into the Reading Program
- A hands-on and engaging Maths Program, already aligned to the new Maths Curriculum
- A dedicated Specialist PE teacher/PE program from Foundation to Year 6
- An enhanced and engaging STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) with the substantial purchase of STEM resources such as robotics
- Continuation of our Extension Program, as well as support and intervention
- Continuation of Art, Music, Wellbeing, Auslan and the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

Holiday Building Works

As you are no doubt aware, we have seen the beginning of building works. This work will ramp up over the holidays, particularly around our hall. There will be some asbestos removal works also. During this time, no-one will be permitted on school grounds. At this point in time, we believe that during 2nd -8th January these works will take place (TBC).

We also appreciate our community keeping an eye on the school over the break. Please feel free to email Jane.Capon@education.vic.gov.au if you notice anything awry, or the police for more urgent matters. We thank you for your support.

VICSWIM

VICSWIM is a 5-day intensive learn to swim and water safety program for children aged 4 to 12 years.

The Victorian Government subsidises the program. Aquatics and Recreation Victoria runs it.

Program details

Dates: Monday 6 January to Friday 10 January, Monday 13 January to Friday 17 January, Monday 20 January to Friday 24 January

Time: 5 lessons, 30 minutes each

Location: more than 170 pools, beaches and waterways across the state. To find your nearest location, refer to [VICSWIM 2025 venues](#)

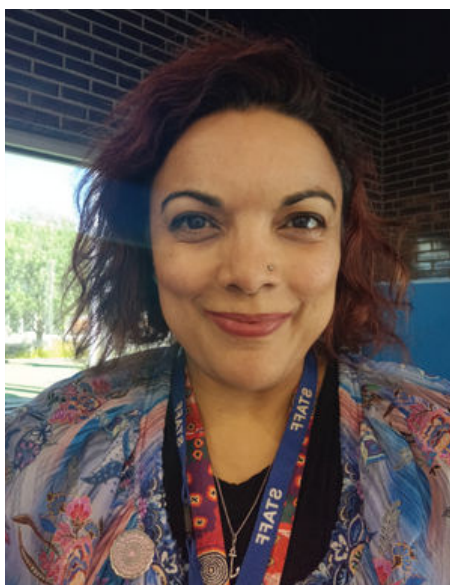
Cost: \$35 per child for the week.

For more information and to book, refer to the [VICSWIM website](#). You will need to create an account to book.

Farewell & Welcome!

We are sad to say that Jayne S will be leaving APPS at the end of this year. Jayne has been working with students through the Tutor Learning Initiative and our Music program. We very much value the contribution she has made to the Music program (especially Assembly performances!), the development of the choir and the introduction of drama to the program.

We are, however, pleased to announce that Natalie Palmer will be filling Jayne's (big) shoes in 2025. Natalie is an accomplished singer, who is passionate about performing arts and student wellbeing. We look forward to welcoming her in 2025.



Classes for 2025

As previously mentioned, the trial class they experienced on the transition morning will be their class for 2025, although there are some changes. Student classes and teachers will be confirmed at the end of next week.

Please keep an eye on Compass. When reports are opened, we will send a message out to let you know.

We look forward to our Year 6 Graduation next Wednesday 18th December, where we will celebrate the amazing achievements of our Year 6 cohort, and wish them well as they transition to secondary school.

Our final assembly will be Friday 20th December, starting at 12.45pm, with an early finish at 1.30pm. We will announce our 2025 captains and farewell the Year 6 class of 2024.

School will resume on Wednesday 29th January for Years 1-6 students and our Foundation students will start the following day on Thursday 30th January.

As this is our last newsletter for the year, I wish you all safe and happy holidays, and look forward to seeing you for an exciting and successful 2025.

Warm regards,
Jane C.

Sustainability News

Container Deposit Scheme at APPS

Late last term, the Sustainability Leaders cooperated with teachers and other students to establish Ainslie Parkland's Container Deposit Scheme.

By participating in the Container Deposit Scheme, we are able to reduce the waste we produce, as well as make 10c per eligible drink container.

The 5/6 Class has been collecting the containers, the money from which will go towards Year 6 Graduation.

Last weekend, Scott took 249 containers to a deposit location, which meant that this term, we have raised \$24.90, which would have otherwise gone in the bin.

We will continue collecting eligible containers from our lunch boxes in 2025.



From The Art Room

Our incredibly creative APPS students worked together to decorate two large gingerbread houses in Art lessons recently. These gingerbread houses are on display at Croydon Central Shopping Centre until the 22nd of December. Shoppers can vote on their favourite house via a QR code set up in-centre.

So, if you are shopping at Croydon Central this holiday season, please take the time to cast your votes and support our school!



From Foundation, 1 & 2

Wellbeing and mindfulness are a constant presence in our classrooms. They are part of our restorative conversations, our SWPBS tokens, our Friendology program and the Zones of Regulation. As the students move towards the end of the year, fatigue is never too far away. We've been running daily circles to start the day. Based on the Berry Street method, we greet one another, reflect on positive happenings in the classroom and check in on one another



From Year 3

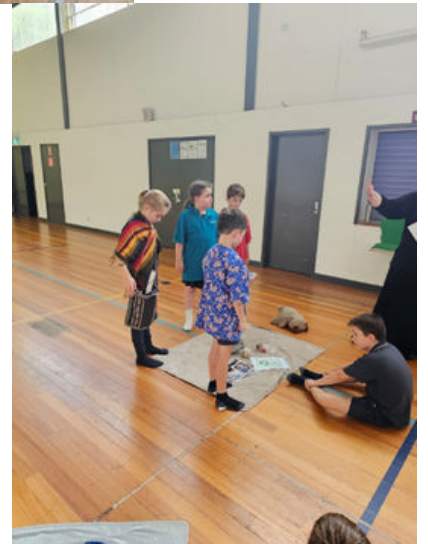
In Grade 3 we had a sustainability incursion, where the children got to dress-up and act out certain scenarios around logging in Sumatra and nets catching sea creatures like turtles and dolphins. We presented our Culture speeches with the Grade 4's yesterday, where we highlighted the celebrations, culture, festivals and traditions specific to our chosen country. Next Monday we will have a culmination to our Inquiry unit on cultural diversity with an incursion on World Dance.

For Maths we have completed our unit on Chance looking at the words used to describe the chance of certain outcomes occurring and have enjoyed playing the maths warm-up game of Greedy Pig. In reading we have looked at connections to text and completed a book review on a favourite book we have read and why it could be enjoyable for other children.

We have enjoyed listening to Roald Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and will watch the original version of the movie as a comparison to events in the book. It has been a pleasure getting to know these children and I wish them all the best as they continue their Primary school journey. Thanks to all the Grade Three parents and the community for welcoming me and supporting me with guiding your child's learning and bringing them some joy and laughter.

Merry Christmas and a safe holiday to you and all your families!

David



From Year 4/5

The Year 4/5 classroom have completed a maths unit in 'chance.' Our initial lesson began with chance vocabulary and how we can apply it to real world events and activities.

We worked as a whole group to construct a 'chance' continuum, discussing and posing questions along the way. To conclude we played a variety of 'chance' games to further develop our understanding of the concepts covered.



From Year 5/6

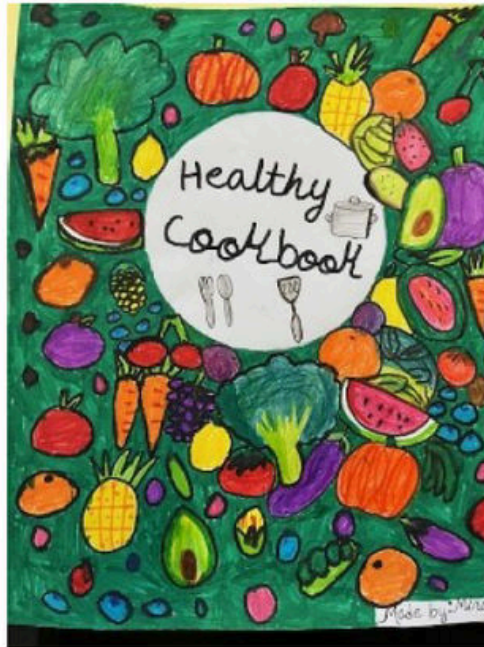
Preparing for Graduation

The end of Term 4 brings about a very exciting time for the oldest students in the school – graduation. Our Year 6 students from the 5/6 Class have been busy preparing for graduation.

Students have been writing their speeches in which they will recount and reflect on their primary school journeys and look forward to the future. As a part of their preparations, students have practised using a microphone to give their speeches to a small audience, and look forward to giving their speeches to a much larger audience of family and friends next Wednesday at 6pm.



Ainslie Parklands Primary School Healthy Eating Cookbook!



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Final Uniform Delivery 2024 / First Uniform Delivery 2025

To the School Wear Family

Please note there will be no uniform delivery in the last week of Term 4. This is a busy week for both schools and couriers and if the delivery is not made prior to school finishing then there is a risk that orders are lost at the courier depot over the holidays.

- Final Uniform Delivery 2024 – Week 10 2024 – 9th – 13th December 2024
- First Uniform Delivery 2025 – Week 1 2025 – 28th– 31st January 2025
- Orders placed during the break for Delivery to School will be held and sent when school reopens on 28th January.
- Orders for delivery to home will continue to be processed and sent via Australia Post. (Except during our Christmas Closure period from 20th December to 6th January)
- All stores will close at 5.00 pm on Friday 20th December and reopen at 9.00 am Wednesday 8th January. Please check the website for each store's hours.
- All stores will be open on Australia Day Public Holiday 27th January 2025
- For information and assistance please email OnlineOrders@spartass.com.au