



Term 1

Issue 3

Week 5

March 1 2018

DIARY DATES

MARCH

Thursday 1st

Bush Dance Workshops
Prep Pizza Night

Tuesday 6th

Whole School Photo Day

Wednesday 7th

Family Bush Dance 5-7pm

Friday 9th

Curriculum Day– Student Free Day

Monday 12th

Labour Day Public Holiday

Monday 19th – Wednesday 28th

Whole School Swimming

TUESDAYS ARE NUDE FOOD DAYS

WEDNESDAY IS SCHOOL BANKING DAY

DUE BY DATES:

MARCH

COPIES OF ALL NEWSLETTERS,
FORMS AND NOTICES ARE
AVAILABLE ON
OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE.

Principal's Report

The Bush Dance – Wednesday 7th March

Our students enjoyed 'rev up' day today in preparation for new week's bush dance. Bush band, Blackberry Jam, were in to teach the dances that will be danced on the night. Our community bush dance is held every two years and is a great opportunity to come along and enjoy a night together with friends from our school community. Bring the family and a picnic along for a night of great fun. Hope to see you there!



Vandalism at Amsleigh Park PS

I'm sorry to report that we have been the subject of some nasty vandalism in recent weeks, with four windows smashed, painted poured on our play equipment and graffiti spray painted on our portable classrooms. It's a senseless waste, and is costing the school money as we undertake various repairs. Police have been informed and are trying to assist.

Unfortunately, all schools are soft targets as our campuses are large and the grounds often easy to access. As a result of this situation we will be locking the Amsleigh Park PS campus gates at all entrances over the next couple of weekends until the issue eases. Our apologies to the community as we like our campus to be used for recreation after hours and on weekends, but this situation requires this action at this time. If you do happen to live close to the school and hear any noises, such as smashing glass, especially at night, please call the police to report it.

STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

We live in a rapidly changing world and as a school we need to respond effectively if we are to support our students to prepare for their future adult lives. If the predictions are correct, our children can look forward to working in a range of occupations that may have not even been invented yet, and there is no doubt that technology will play a significant role in this, hence the emergence of STEM learning. The acronym, STEM, encompasses learning in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

In 2018 we have further developed our STEM learning program so that all students will now be undertaking one STEM learning session each week for one semester (Half Year). This is a significant opportunity for our students who can look forward to future focused learning in coding and robotics. Mr Powell, our STEM teacher, is our resident expert in this learning area, and we are indeed fortunate to have this expertise on our teaching staff in this important field.

Late in 2017 we were successful in writing a grant submission and received \$5000 to spend on STEM related equipment, such as Sphero and Lego robotics. Grade 3-6 is participating in STEM learning for Terms 1&2, and then P-2 will be in Terms 3&4. If you have any feedback about the program please let me know.



Science



Technology



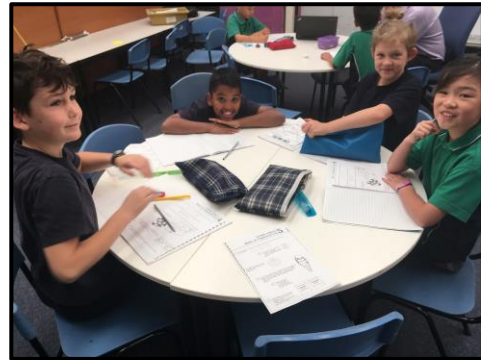
Engineering



Mathematics

Math's Extension Programs

At Amsleigh Park PS we are pleased to offer Mathematics Extension programs for students in Grade 3-6. This extra learning opportunity is for students achieving well above expected levels, who benefit from the added challenges provided through problem solving and more advanced mathematical thinking. Students are selected for this program based on their academic results and other assessments, and with lots of talented mathematicians at APPS there is no shortage of candidates. During the program our Grade 3/4 students will participate in the Mathematics Games, whilst our Grade 5/6s will undertake the Mathematics Olympiad, both run by the Australasian Mathematics Association. The program has now been running for 3 years and we are proud of our student's achievements, and pleased that we can offer this opportunity.



Grade 1-2 Incursion on Cooperative Learning



I had the pleasure of observing our Grade 1/2s participating in a special incursion focusing on cooperative learning this week. As a vitally important life skill, cooperation is an essential aspect of learning for all students, who will get many chances to develop and practise this skill throughout their school lives. Students undertook a range of activities to introduce and reinforce skills through a range of challenges, one of which is pictured to the left. In this activity two students had to walk along the wall, both keeping their balance, whilst holding onto a short rod. As I watched they did a great job! Other activities included a range of challenges in which students worked together to achieve an outcome.

Curriculum Day

Friday 9th March is a Curriculum day at Amsleigh Park PS therefore, no school on that day for our students. Our teaching staff will be undertaking a day of professional learning focusing on the teaching of Writing using the six traits of Writing including Voice, Organisation, Ideas, Conventions, Extending Vocabulary and Sentence Structure. We know this as VOICES+P with the 'P' standing for publishing. At the conclusion of this day our staff will have been trained fully in using this teaching model.

Sometimes kids do the nicest things!

I received a handmade card this week and I just had to smile at thought behind it. I think that the recipients should really be the Parents and Friends, and I have to say that I agree whole heartedly, so many thanks to our PFA who are supporting the school in so many ways. On some of the hot days this year I have thought about the air conditioning that we have provided to these classes, and our PFA was instrumental in making this happen.

Michael Cormick

Principal



School Building Project Helpers

A black rectangular box containing the Campbell Building Group logo, which features a stylized orange 'C' and the text "CAMPBELL BUILDING GROUP". Below the logo, the names "Jarryd Campbell" and "Aaryn Campbell" are listed with their respective phone numbers: "M 0430 202 152" and "M 0407 329 718". At the bottom, the email address "campbellbuilding@outlook.com" and the "CarpentryAustralia" logo are displayed. A tagline at the very bottom reads "'reliable quality for all your carpentry needs'".

There were many helpers on hand to ensure our P-2 building was ready for the school year, and we want to acknowledge the kind assistance of Aaron and Jared from the Campbell Building Group, who donated their time freely to install Interactive Whiteboards in our JLC classrooms. As this task required specialist building skills we greatly appreciate their generosity in helping out. The Campbell Building Group are linked to Amsleigh Park through staff friendships and they do domestic building work including renovation and extensions. Thanks also to our resident maintenance contractor, Craig Shields, who also worked on this project, and did a great job to get the projectors installed and operational.

Communicating with Amsleigh Park Primary School

At Amsleigh Park we have a detailed 'parent communication policy' which is available to all members of the school community. The following rationale is included with the policy:

Amsleigh Park Primary School is committed to good communication and treating everyone according to our school values of respect, integrity and inclusion. It is important to remember that everyone in the school community should work together in the spirit of cooperation and understanding and should conduct themselves in a respectful, calm and courteous manner. All members of the school community are bound by the requirements of this policy when raising a concern at the school.

Within this policy there is an appendix which outlines who parents might get in contact with in the event that they have a concern. The following comes straight from this policy.

- Matters that are best addressed by the classroom teacher or specialist teacher may include: individual student needs, academic progress, assessment, behaviour and discipline issues, non-attendance at school and challenging or changing family circumstances.
- Matters that are best addressed by the principal or teacher leaders may include: school facilities, school fees and charges, student reporting, school policy, dress codes and/or serious discipline issues. The principal will also be available, by appointment, to speak to parents about any other concerns they may have and wish to raise with a more senior member of staff.

Who should I make contact with?

Normally your child's classroom teacher is the best person to get in contact with; however there may be times when it's appropriate to seek a staff member in a leadership role such as the following staff:

Principal Team

Mr Michael Cormick – Principal

Miss Bec Carr – Acting Assistant Principal

Teacher Leaders

Miss Danielle Renwick (Prep)

Ms Jennifer Brown (Grade 1&2)

Mrs Lisa Jonga (Grade 3&4)

Miss Trish Jones (Grade 5&6)

Mrs Terye Kennedy (Specialist Leader)

Miss Sam Hayes (Wellbeing)

Do I need to make an appointment to speak to a teacher?

Normally you need to make an appointment to speak with one of the staff if the matter requires a discussion like a parent-teacher interview. Teaching staff are generally available after school most nights expect for Monday, which is a routine meeting night for all teachers. Making an appointment also puts the teacher in the best position to give you their full attention without compromising their duty of care to students.

What if it's just a quick message?

Passing on a quick message is normally OK, but it should happen outside of teaching time, as the teacher must always maintain their duty of care to students.

What if the matter is urgent?

If the matter is more urgent and concerns **student wellbeing or safety** in particular, then teachers are usually contactable for a brief chat/phone call before 8.45am. If the classroom teacher is not available then the Assistant Principal should be contacted. The Principal can also help to address urgent matters if other staff are not available.

Do I need an appointment to see a teacher leader?

Yes, if the matter requires more than a 'quick message' and is not urgent then you should contact the office to make an appointment to speak with the Principal, Assistant Principal or teacher leaders. We will always do our best to undertake this appointment in a timely manner.

Does the school have an 'open door' to parent concerns?

Yes, most definitely, and the purpose of this newsletter article is to provide a clear idea about how a parent might go about this, and who to contact.

We hope you find this a useful guide in communicating with the school.

Amsleigh Park PS

Bec's Bulletin...

Safety on our School Crossing

Having our school crossings on State Street and Dublin Street is vital in supporting us to maintain community safety. Our crossing supervisors have a very important role to play in assisting all families to arrive at school safely. We need to make sure that we support our crossing supervisors to undertake their role by following some simple and easy to understand rules:

- always use a crossing where possible
- wait for the whistle before crossing
- always cross between the 2 white lines, remaining in front of the crossing supervisor

If any families are crossing away from the school crossing please, ensure children are supervised closely and carefully. Recently we've become aware of some unsafe behaviour and we all need to work together to ensure there are no accidents.



Illness

From time to time, children are unwell and are unavoidably absent from school. Although we would like students to attend school every day where possible, it is important to keep sick children at home. This prevents other children becoming unwell and a bug spreading through the school. We have spoken to our students about the importance of hand washing and personal hygiene and appreciate your support in reinforcing this at home with your child.

School Uniform



We are very lucky at Amsleigh Park to have an onsite uniform shop, run by two fantastic parent volunteers, Jo Devlin and Kath Spotkoeff. Having parents undertake this role enables the school to continue to provide uniforms at a 'wholesale' price as our shop is non-profit. The uniform shop is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30-4:00pm and Wednesdays from 8:45-9:30am. If you are unable to attend at these times, you can fill out an order form, available

from the office, and the items will be delivered to your child's class when the uniform shop is next open. We really appreciate Joanne and Kath for volunteering their time and effort in running our uniform shop. On the topic of uniforms; as I've visited classes this week I was pleased to see that our students were looking smart in their uniforms. A reminder that our policy states that students should wear a light or dark coloured shoe, and this offers lots of scope in the design of shoe. Fluorescent shoes should not be worn as part of the school uniform, and we ask for community support to meet the school policy in this regard. It really does look fantastic when our whole school is in uniform. It creates a sense of connectedness and pride in our school.

School Photo Day

A reminder that Tuesday 6th March is school photo day. If families would like to purchase school photos this year, they can do so by ordering online at:

<https://schoolpix.com.au/order/landing> . If you would like to order sibling photos, you can do so online, or there are forms available at the school office. It would be great to have all students present at school on this day if they are well, so that they may be included in the class picture. Also, a reminder to be in school uniform including correct footwear.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef



PFA UPDATE

WHAT'S NEWS WITH THE PFA?

- It was lovely to meet so many Prep Parent's at the morning tea on their first day of school, a huge welcome to you all.
- Our FREE BOOK EXCHANGE has been relocated to outside the Staff Room, so don't forget to bring in a book and change it over with another one you fancy.
- A reminder that Fundraising will be run a bit differently this year, with each year level being in charge of one particular event. The PFA will continue to oversee and assist. We have great experience and resources to guide you. The events are:

Prep Grades:	Raffles (including Easter, Production and ? Christmas)
Grade 1 :	Fathers' Day Stall , Thursday 30th Aug
Grade 2 :	Mothers' Day Stall, Thursday 10th May
Grade 3 :	Chocolate Drive
Grade 4 :	Disco, Thursday May 3rd
Grade 5 :	Production Canteen
Grade 6 :	Bush Dance/ Sports Night (Alternate years), 2018 is Bush Dance

- We would like to say a big 'THANK YOU' to the following parents who have volunteered to be Class Representatives for 2018:-

▪ Prep A	Saro Jacobson
▪ Prep B	Lucy Knight/Sarah Beard
▪ Grade 1/2A	Caz Hayes
▪ Grade 1A	Oshani Botejue
▪ Grade 1B	Ana Meyborg
▪ Grade 2A	Anne Wong
▪ Grade 2B	Sonya Moreland
▪ Grade 3/4A	Lena Merrin
▪ Grade 3A	Hannah McConnell
▪ Grade 3B	Denisa Dlouha
▪ Grade 4A	Cath Tomlinson
▪ Grade 4B	Christine Kara-Pittman
▪ Grade 5/6A	Mez Taylor
▪ Grade 5/6B	Emma Antipas
▪ Grade 5/6C	Greg Dallas
▪ Grade 5/6D	Katie Tsamis

SCHOOL BANKING COMMENCES

WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY



WEDNESDAY'S ARE SCHOOL BANKING DAY AT APPS

For more information and account application forms visit
www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking



APPS CANTEEN



The Canteen is open each
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from February 5, 2018

► The Canteen is **CLOSED** on Tuesdays ◀
Lunch orders are **NOT** available on Tuesdays

Current Menu/Pricelist is available on the school website – www.amsleigh.vic.edu.au

CANTEEN HELPERS ROSTER

MARCH

Thursday 1 st – Maria	Friday 2 nd – Patrice & Wendy
Thursday 8 th – Kate	Friday 9 th – Curriculum Day
Thursday 15 th – Cassie	Friday 16 th – Jess & Jane
Thursday 22 nd – Kath	Friday 23 rd – Patrice
Thursday 29 th – Wendy & Maria	

We're always happy to have new people join our team of Canteen Helpers.
If you would like to volunteer on Thursdays or Fridays,
please contact Dia on 0418 536 154. Thank you.



Amsleigh Park Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)

Curriculum Day
9th March 2018

7:00am – Pancakes for breakfast

8:00am – Meditation & Yoga (With Sharma)

9:00am – Art & Craft: Origami creations (Ninja Stars)

10:00am – Walk to the local park for morning tea

12:00pm – Lunch

1:00pm – Bake cup cakes

2:00pm – Making slime

3:00pm – Outdoor Play

4:00pm – Movie & popcorn

5-6:30pm – Quiet activities



Contact Us!

Our staff can be contacted on 0403 127 838,
during program hours 7am – 9am and
3:00pm - 6:30pm Monday to Friday.

Care, Share, and Be Fair!

Let's all get together and make OSHC and vacation care at Amsleigh Park a happy, enjoyable,
and interesting program!



AFL OAKLEIGH AUSKICK

Oakleigh Auskick will be making an early start to season 2018 commencing at 9 am on Saturday 24th March and finishing on 25th August (23 weeks). Oakleigh Auskick is one of the very few that operates right through the School Holidays.

Venue – Oakleigh South Primary School Riley Street, South Oakleigh.

Cost for the whole season is \$100 you can register now on line or anytime during the season at www.aflauskick.com.au

Children are welcome to try out before they register if they wish.

Boys and girls 5-12 years of age are eligible to participate. Children must be at least 5 years of age or turning 5 years of age during the Auskick season.

Oakleigh Auskickers receive a backpack including a football and other great footy stuff when they register. Memento's of the season in the form of trophies, action photos, group photos and skill certificates are presented to each Auskicker at the end of the year break up.

Experienced coaches oversee the programme.

Parent help with the running of the program is required.

For more information contact the Oakleigh Auskick Coordinator

Mr Kerry Ryan 0413691885

**A special day
just for
families**

Join in the fun!
17 March
Goodstart Oakleigh



**goodstart
early
learning**

Together there's no limits

THE AMSLEIGH BUZZ

Please retain these absence notes for your future use. If your child is absent for any reason, please complete and hand to your child's teacher upon his/her return to school. These forms should also be used to give prior notice of absences due to holidays etc.

Handy Hint – All Absence notifications can be completed on FlexiBuzz



STUDENT ABSENCE NOTIFICATION

Student Name; _____ Grade; _____

Was absent / Will Be absent *(please circle)* from school on the following date/s

____ / ____ / ____
____ / ____ / ____

____ / ____ / ____
____ / ____ / ____

The absence was / is due to

- ☐ Illness
- ☐ Family Bereavement
- ☐ Parent Choice

☐ Other _____

Signed: _____ Parent/Guardian Date: ____ / ____ / ____



STUDENT ABSENCE NOTIFICATION

Student Name; _____ Grade; _____

Was absent / Will Be absent *(please circle)* from school on the following date/s

____ / ____ / ____
____ / ____ / ____

____ / ____ / ____
____ / ____ / ____

The absence was / is due to

- ☐ Illness
- ☐ Family Bereavement
- ☐ Parent Choice

☐ Other _____

Signed: _____