



Alfredton News

E-mail: alfredton.ps@education.vic.gov.au | Homepage: <http://www.alfredtonps.vic.edu.au>

Phone: 5334 1572 | Office Hours: 8.30am–4.30pm

RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY RELATIONSHIPS
EVERY CHILD WILL FLOURISH WITH TIME, EFFORT AND SUPPORT.



Principals Report 22nd November 2023

Dear Parents & Carers

I am looking forward to our multimedia presentation this week. I know the many hours that have gone into production and am excited to see the final product. Things are getting really busy here at Alfredton Primary School as we start to wind up 2023 and start planning for 2024.

There are so many extracurricular events planned for the end of the term. Last week we ran the junior athletics carnival. What a ripper day it was! Thanks to John Clearly and all of the P-2 staff for their organisation and help in setting up and running the events. It was wonderful to see so many families come along and support their children.

Our choir sang at DTC Kmart for the launch of the Wishing Tree last week and this week at the Bill Crawford Lodge. Our choir work so hard over lunch times to practice and polish their performances under the brilliant guidance of Kim Paice and Jemma Harris.

- There are still quite a few planned events including:
- Foundation transition (November 30 and December 12)
 - Japanese Day (December 5)
 - Year 7 transition (December 12)
 - 5/6 Travel Expo (December 14)
 - The mini fete – more information is provided in the newsletter (December 15)
 - Grade 6 graduation (December 18)
 - Step up day – where children to get to meet their 2024 teacher and classmates (December 19)
 - F-2 Movie excursion (December 18)

Making A difference

The world is a big place. And it's easy to think, when you're just one person, that there is nothing you can do to make a difference. But actually, that's not true. All of us, every day, can choose to do a little something that can make the world a bit better. It may not make us famous; it may not get us on the news, but it might improve someone's life. Or it might help the planet in some small way.

Smile and Smile Back

It takes half as many muscles to smile as it does to frown. And it makes you and others feel twice as good

Kind regards

Nadia



RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY RELATIONSHIPS
EVERY CHILD WILL FLOURISH WITH TIME, EFFORT AND SUPPORT.

We RESPECT:

- Individual differences
- Ourselves
- Cultural diversity
- Others' opinions
- Property
- Others' feelings

We take RESPONSIBILITY for:

- Our behaviour
- Our actions
- Our attendance
- Our learning
- Our belongings
- Our dress code
- Our school
- Our environment
- Doing our best

We build RELATIONSHIPS with each other by:

- Being honest & trustworthy
- Caring about the feelings of others
- Treating others fairly
- Being well mannered
- Resolving differences calmly



We recognise the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first custodians of the land. We acknowledge the Wadawurrung people and extend respect to all Indigenous peoples of this continent recognising their cultures as the oldest continuous living cultures in human history.



RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY RELATIONSHIPS

EVERY CHILD WILL FLOURISH WITH TIME, EFFORT AND SUPPORT.

EVERY DAY COUNTS PRIMARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

SCHOOL IS BETTER WHEN YOUR CHILD IS THERE

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

IN VICTORIA SCHOOL IS COMPULSORY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 6 -17 YEARS

Student Absences

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and developing good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

Family holidays - It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term. If you are planning to go on holiday during term time, make sure that you talk to your child's school in advance, and work with them to develop an absence learning plan.

"Day off" – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

School refusal - School-refusing children will experience significant emotional distress not only when going to school but also at the thought of going to school; they may be absent from school for weeks or even months at a time. School refusal differs from truancy as children generally stay home with the knowledge of the parents and despite their best efforts to encourage their child to go to school. See: [My child or teenager has anxiety](#).

BEING AWAY FROM SCHOOL FOR ONE DAY A FORTNIGHT EQUALS MISSING 1.5 YEARS OVER 13 YEARS OF SCHOOL

If your child is away

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

Inform the school

- Speak with your child's classroom teacher and find out what work they need to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Training Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Chronic or ongoing attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice being issued to parent/s.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Top attendance tips for parents

- Schools want to work in partnership with parents – act early if you have any concerns by contacting your child's school and asking for advice and support
- Remember that every day counts
- There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes and their social connectedness
- Talk positively about school and the importance of attending every day
- Open and prompt communication with your child's school about all absences is a good idea
- Avoid making routine medical and dental appointments during the school day or planning family holidays during the term
- Seek help from your school if you are concerned about your child's attendance and wellbeing. Schools want to work in partnership with parents to support student attendance and wellbeing.

Further information

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/student-management/attendance/Pages/improve-attendance.aspx>

17 TERM DATES 2023 17

TERM 3: Mon 10th July – Fri 15th Sept

TERM 4: Mon 2nd Oct – Wed 20th Dec

17 TERM DATES 2024 17

TERM 1: Tues 30th Jan- Thur 28th March

TERM 2: Mon 15th April – Fri 28th June

TERM 3: Mon 15th July – Fri 20th Sept

TERM 4: Mon 7th Oct – Fri 20th Dec

KEY CALENDAR DATES:

Wednesday 22nd November

Multimedia Night Screening

Friday 24th November

Student Free Day

Tuesday 5th December

Japanese Day

Tuesday 12th December

Year 7 Transition Day

Thursday 14th December

Grade 5 & 6 Travel Expo

Friday 15th December

Mini Fete

Monday 18th December

F-2 Day at the Movies Excursion

Year 6 Graduation

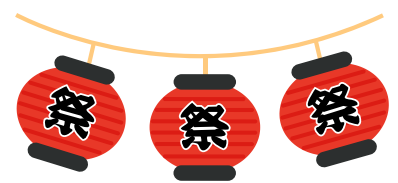
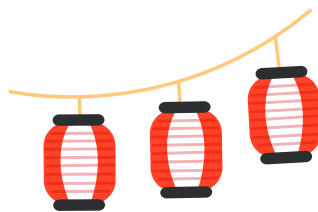
Wednesday 20th December

Last Day Term 4: 1.30 pm Dismissal

CAN YOU HELP US?

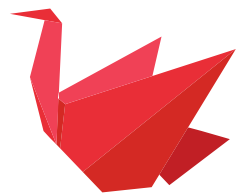


At the end of the year, we will be once again celebrating another successful year of Grade 6 Alfredton Primary School students. During our Graduation, we have a number of awards that are won by students. Over many years we have had many kind contributions and are again looking for donations. Any parents or businesses that would like to contribute towards an award please see the Grade 6 Teachers by Friday 1st December.



Japanese Day

5th Dec



Students are encouraged to come to school dressed in Japanese-themed clothing or in red or white coloured clothes.

Child safety and wellbeing at Alfredton Primary School:

Information for families and the school community

The Victorian Government has Child Safe Standards to further strengthen child safety across organisations, including schools. The standards recognise the critical importance of families and the broader school community in maintaining and promoting child safety and wellbeing.

Alfredton Primary School regularly reviews and updates our child safety policies and procedures to ensure they meet the requirements of the standards. These are available to view on our school's website, or at the school's front office on request.


We welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures, and practices. If you have any suggestions, comments, or questions, please contact the Principal by emailing

alfredton.ps@education.vic.edu.au







Mini Fete




In celebration of another fabulous year of learning at Alfredton Primary School, we will hold our 2023 Mini-Fete on Friday, December 15th.





Many of our much-loved fete activities will return, and we look forward to an afternoon of fun festivities!

LET'S
CELEBRATE


The 2023 Mini-Fete will be a time for the children to celebrate and have fun with their school friends and is a student and staff-only event.




The children will require a small amount of pocket money (\$5-\$10) to participate in optional activities at the Mini-Fete. There will also be a sausage sizzle for lunch before the fete with sausages (halal) and a vegetarian option available to purchase.



Stay tuned for more information soon.



After listening to our senior children's feedback, the Walk-a-Thon will not proceed this year. However, we are excited to inform you that we look forward to adding a Colour Run to our calendar of fundraising events in 2024.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
8 th Week 2	9 th	10 th Year 3 & 4 Gymnastics	11 th Newsletter	12 th	13 th Assembly 2.30pm	14 th
15 th Week 3	16 th Foundation Swimming	17 th Year 3 & 4 Gymnastics	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st
22 nd Week 4	23 rd Year 6 Graduation Photos Year 1 Swimming	24 th Year 3 & 4 Gymnastics	25 th Newsletter 	26 th	27 th Assembly 2.30pm	28 th
29 th Week 5	30 th Year 1 Wildlife Park Excursion	31 st Year 3 & 4 Gymnastics	1 st November	2 nd Summer Sport 5-6 Cricket Parent Info Evening Foundation 2024	3 rd	4 th
5 th Week 6	6 th Student Free Day 	7 th Melbourne Cup Public Holiday	8 th	9 th Foundation Zoo Excursion Newsletter	10 th Assembly 2.30pm	11 th
12 th Week 7	13 th	14 th Foundation Transition Day Session 1	15 th	16 th	17 th Junior Athletics Day	18 th
19 th Week 8	20 th	21 st Multimedia Screening @ the Regent Theatre	22 nd Multimedia Screening @ The Regent Theatre Newsletter 	23 rd	24 th Student Free Day 	25 th
26 th Week 6	27 th	28 th	29 th	30 th Foundation Transition Day Session 2	1 st	2 nd
3 rd	4 th	5 th Japanese Day / Sushi Day 	6 th Newsletter 	7 th	8 th Assembly 2.30pm	9 th
10	11 th	12 th Year 7 Transition Day Foundation Transition Day Session 3	13 th	14 th Grade 5 & 6 travel Expo 3.30pm	15 th Mini Fete 	16 th
17 th Last Week of Term	18 th F-2 Trip to the Cinema Year 6 Graduation 	19 th	20 th Last Day of Term Students Dismissed at 1.30pm	21 st School Holidays commence 	22 nd	23 rd

Team 1 News

Kinder Transition:

It was lovely to see our new 2024 Foundation students visit Alfredton PS during their transition sessions. Thank you sincerely to our Foundation staff, Anna Jackson, Natalie Neville, and Kaitlyn Pickergill for organising the fabulous transition program and for supporting our new and current Foundation children.

Also a special welcome to all families who have children commencing at Alfredton PS next year. This is a very exciting time in your child's educational journey, and we certainly look forward to forming a positive home/school partnership with you.

Multimedia Night:

What a fantastic Multimedia! Staff and children have worked exceptionally hard with regard to rehearsing, filming, and editing. We thank you for supporting this wonderful extravaganza. The F-2 team would also like to acknowledge Ms Jemma Harris for her dedication in pulling all of the Multimedia components together.

Junior Sports:

A big shout out to Mr John Clearly and our incredible F-2 staff for such a wonderful sports day on Friday. Our senior year 6 sport captains did an amazing job of supporting the day and I would like to thank our friends and family for backing this day with regards to your attendance. Finally, a massive congratulations to our F-2 stars who displayed sportsmanship, teamwork, and great athleticism.

With the end of our 2023 school year quickly approaching, we have a variety of exciting end-of-year celebrations planned for our F-2 children. Further information regarding these activities will be posted on FlexiSchool in the coming weeks. (Please see some of the important dates below)

The Home Reading program will cease on Friday, 15th December. All books must be returned to school as soon as possible as staff need to repair, audit, and sort the books in preparation for the new 2024 school year. The school library will also close for student borrowing on Friday, 24th November. Only book returns will occur after this date so please search around the home for any missing or overdue books and return them to school as soon as possible.

Important dates:

Wednesday 22nd November - Multimedia (6:00 pm -9:00 pm)

Friday 24th November – Student Free Day (Report Writing)

Friday 15th December - Mini Fete

Monday 18th December- F-2 end of the year movie.

Wednesday 20th December – Term 4 Ends.
Students dismissed early 1.30pm

Kind regards,

Team 1 Staff

Mark Cottrill, Natalie Neville, Helen Bilson, Kaitlyn Pickersgill, Mary Wood, Nicole Phillips, Keeley Throp, Alex McQueen, Anna Jackson, and Cathy Griffin.

Team 2 News

Year 3 and 4

School Movie

We hope those of you who made it to our movie enjoyed it. The students enjoyed having your support and the opportunity to show off their talents. If you didn't see it last night – you still have time. The final screening is tonight (Wednesday 22nd). Tickets can be purchased through the Regent Multiplex Theatre.

Japanese Day

Please check Flexischools for an update on our Sushi Lunch for Japanese day.

Pupil Free

Just a reminder that THIS FRIDAY is a pupil-free day. Teachers will be frantically writing their reports. Hopefully it is sunny and you get the opportunity to have a long weekend with your children.

Dates for Term 4:

21st & 22nd November – screening of school film at Regent Multiplex Theatre

24th November – Pupil Free (Report Writing)

5th December Japanese Day – Sushi Lunch

15th December - Mini Fete

19th December – reports emailed home

20th December – Term 4 Ends. Students dismissed early 1.30pm

Kind regards,

TEAM 2 Teachers

Lynn Schuller, Jess Eddy, Tim Huglin

Sharon Simper, Matthew Heinrich, Teresa Wright

Team 3 News

Year 5

We are very excited to announce our APS Travel Expo. Please see the flyer on the following page for more information. Each classroom teacher has also posted further information on Google Classroom and explained to students the expectations around the project. Most of the project is completed during class time, however families are encouraged to add to the expo with something prepared at home; such as traditional foods, clothing or other decorations they see relevant. Please let us know if you need any materials to support this.

We would also like to thank families and students for their contributions to our Reverse Advent Calendar boxes initiative. It has been so wonderful to see generous donations rolling in! We are still accepting donations for the next 1-2 weeks. It is a wonderful feeling to support families and young people who need a little extra help this Christmas.

Year 6

The Year 6 students are now entering the business end of their final year. With assessment currently in full swing we encourage all families to discuss the importance of students giving their best but also understanding that assessment is not about perfection. It is merely an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning and achievements for the 2023 school year.

Please encourage students to seek advice and feedback from their classroom teacher if they are feeling disappointed or overwhelmed with the assessment tasks.

As we enter the final stretch of the academic year, Year 6 will also be undertaking a number of exciting projects. Our literacy focus will be centred on our Geography flips books. Students will compare their chosen country with Australia over a range of categories. Students will also be working on a "Small Business Owner" project during numeracy lessons, which will help build their understanding of how businesses operate as well as monetary understanding.

Year 6 - Continued

Christmas is fast approaching. While it is a time for celebration, it is also a time to think about those that are less fortunate than us. In previous years, staff at APS have filled boxes for the Reverse Advent Calendar initiative. We are hoping to open up the opportunity to Year 5 and 6 students to also give to this great Christmas fundraiser.

How it works: Each box is to be filled with approximately 20 items over the next month. When full, we will deliver them to organisers to be distributed to local families across Ballarat who need a little bit of extra help at this time of year. We have 6 boxes to be filled, so only one item would be required per student. We also understand that giving might be tough for some at this time of year, so there is no pressure to donate.

A variety of items that can be included in each box:

- Canned fruit
- Canned vegetables
- Canned tuna
- Canned meals
- Baked beans
- Soups
- Dried fruit and nuts
- Crackers, biscuits
- Long-life milk
- Juice
- Christmas items
- Coffee/tea/milo
- Spreads – jam, vegemite etc.
- Rice, pasta, noodles
- Pasta sauce
- Cereal
- Muesli bars
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Soap/deodorant (not aerosol)
- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Tissues/toilet paper
- Treat foods – chocolate, lollies etc

It is important that items are non-perishable and have a significant length on the use-by date. Thank you for supporting the local community!

Key Dates

- *Friday 24th November* - Pupil Free Day Report Writing
- *Tuesday 12th December* - Year 7 Transition (Government Schools)
- *Tuesday 5th December* - Japanese Day
- *Friday 15th December* - Mini Fete
- *Monday 18th December* - Graduation
- *Wednesday 20th December* - Last day of school, 1.30pm finish

Thanks,

Gab Mathieson, Tim Smith, Michael Busija, Arlyn Harris, Candice Smith and John Saitta



We invite you to
EXPERIENCE THE WORLD

Thursday 14th December

Come visit our mock Travel Expo where students are showcasing everything they have learnt this term about their chosen country!

Students will open the expo from 2:30pm, with families invited from 3:30-4:30pm.

See you there!

School Awards

FA: Max - For making a super effort in Maths sessions.

Thank you for working so hard to complete all of the learning tasks. A fine effort, Max!

FA: Patterson - For the enthusiasm you showed and the effort you put into every event on Sports Day. An amazing effort, Patterson!

FB: Jack - For approaching your learning with a mature attitude and discussing things with us when needed.

Keep up your positive work, Jack...we know you can do it!

FB: Ella - For working hard to learn the letters and the most common sounds they make. Thank you for being focussed during learning time. Keep working hard, Ella!

FC: Eli - For applying yourself to all of your learning and challenging yourself to record sounds in words during phonics lessons.

FC: Sofia - For using your finger spelling to help you to accurately write words in our phonics sessions.

1A: Harjot - For being a very thoughtful and caring friend when a classmate was injured. You showed maturity beyond your years, and we are very proud of you, Harjot!

1A: Ruby - For writing a fabulous recount about your new baby brother. Great work, Ruby!

1B: Zaara - For always completing work with outstanding results and showing respect to fellow class mates and teachers. Great work Zaara

1B: Ashleigh - For conquering your fears over the year, eating at school and always producing amazing writing with beautiful scripture. We are all very proud of you Ashleigh!

2A: Whole Class - For an outstanding sports day.

Congratulations on completing your very last junior sports day, you should all feel proud.

2B: Whole Class - For an outstanding sports day.

Congratulations on completing your very last junior sports day, you should all feel proud.

2C: Hiru - Well done on making a tremendous start here at Alfredton PS. You have quickly learnt our routines and your smile that you bring everyday is very infectious. We are very lucky to have you in our class!

2C: Chelsea - For being a confident and enthusiastic member of the class who consistently makes good choices and demonstrates our school values.

Congratulations on being a fabulous role model to your peers, Chelsea!

3A: The Whole Class - Who have continued to be amazing! They have demonstrated respect for each other and their teachers. They have taken responsibility for their equipment and for understanding their lessons.

3B: Flynn - For working tirelessly on the choices you make within the classroom and in the playground! You have had an incredible semester, you've made amazing growth in your learning and it's been a pleasure to have you in 3B, Flynn!

3B: Emmi - For putting in 100% with everything you do, day in and day out, all year! Nothing is ever too much to ask of you and you're willing to tackle new challenges with your learning! You are a stellar role model for everyone, Emmi!

4B: Eli - For consistently applying yourself to all of your studies. You are always looking to extend your learning and should be proud of the effort you have put into everything this year! Well done, Eli!

4B: Aashka - For always demonstrating the school values and being an excellent role model for everyone in 4B. Well done, Aashka!

4C: Ani - For starting Alfredton Primary School with a positive attitude, giving everything a go and trying your best. Well done!

4C: Rianna - For demonstrating the school values throughout the year, always putting in your best effort in your school work, and helping others. Well done!

5A: Leena - For making a great start at your new school. It has been a pleasure welcoming you to 5A.

5A: Biya - For making a great start at your new school. It has been a pleasure welcoming you to 5A.

5B: Willow - For the upbeat attitude you bring to the classroom. You are always keen to engage in learning and happy to work with those around you.

5B: Jacob - For the responsibility you have shown during the assessment period. You should feel proud of yourself and your results.

6A: Kaiden - For your incredible efforts during assessment week. You should feel proud of your determination and pleasing results. Well done, Kaiden!

6A: Denham - For your wonderful efforts during assessment week. It has been pleasing to see your determination and great results. Well done, Denham!

6C: Owen - For your efforts during assessment week, it was so pleasing to see you put in such hard work and determination. Well done, Owen.

6C: Ruby C- For being a friendly and helpful member of the classroom. You are a good friend to all and are greatly valued by your peers.



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SHAYNE REESE SWIMMING



Huge congratulations to all Alfredton Primary School students who participated in the School Swimming Intensive Program this year. It's was great to see some fantastic results and smiles on all your faces! We are very proud of you and look forward to seeing you next year.

Shayne Reese OAM
Shayne Reese Swimming



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Check out all the great things happening in our Local Community

Basketball Ballarat Junior Miners Holiday Camp

Adroit Insurance & Risk Junior Holiday Camps are held during each school holidays for children aged 5-13 years old of all genders and abilities. Improve your skills, develop techniques, enhance your game, meet new friends and ultimately have fun! Our camps cater for the beginner who has never picked up a basketball to the most experience 13 year old in the land! For further details please contact Zack Cummins via email programs@ballaratbasketball.com or for urgent enquiries call reception on (03) 5338 1220

All participants can expect:

- Meet your favourite Miners players
- Expert instructions from professional coaches including Miners player and coaches
 - Develop new basketball skills and training methods
 - Fun and inclusive learning environment
- Structured session content including great games and prizes at every camp
 - Learn how to be a great team mate and help others succeed

Registrations for the Summer Holidays are now open, held on Wednesday January 17th, Thursday January 18th, Tuesday January 23rd, Wednesday January 24th and Thursday January 25th at Selkirk Stadium.

For more information and to register: <https://www.ballaratbasketball.com/adroit-insurance-risk-holiday-camp/>



MINERS JUNIOR CAMPS

MEET AND LEARN FROM ALL YOUR

FAVOURITE BALLARAT MINERS PLAYERS

Register now and be a part of all the fun

BALLARATBASKETBALL.COM



Local Sports



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

- Junior Boys Football
- Junior Netball
- Junior Girls Football

Do you want your child to be involved in a family oriented community? Develop social & physical skills? Receive top tier coaching?

Look no further than North Ballarat!

Our Junior programs are supported by Senior Football coach Brendan McCartney & A Grade Netball coach Annie McCartin

**SCAN QR TO FILL OUT
EXPRESSION OF
INTEREST FORM**

