



# Alfredton News

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

## Principal's Report - 28th May 2025

Dear Families,

### Building Resilience in Children

Resilience helps children manage stress, tackle challenges, and bounce back from setbacks. One of the most powerful things parents can do is model calm problem-solving and positive thinking. Encourage your child to talk through challenges, remind them that mistakes are part of learning, and celebrate effort as much as results. Even small, consistent messages of “you’ve got this” make a big difference over time.

### Corrections & Congratulations

A quick correction from last week’s newsletter: Our apologies for listing the wrong names. A huge congratulations to Chelsea and Evie for making it through to the Cross Country Regional Finals—a fantastic achievement!

Also, well done to our AFL 9’s team who competed last Wednesday. Your teamwork and sportsmanship represented Alfredton PS with pride.

### Prep Swimming Program

Our Prep swimming program has now wrapped up—well done to all our youngest learners who showed courage and persistence in the water each day. We’d like to take this opportunity to encourage families to continue swimming lessons outside of school wherever possible. Water safety is an essential life skill, and regular practice helps build confidence and ability year-round.

### Every Day Counts – Attendance and Punctuality Matter

Regular attendance and being on time are vital to every child’s success at school. Even missing one day every two weeks adds up to four weeks of lost learning each year.

Arriving late means your child misses important routines and learning time, and can disrupt the class. The Department of Education and Training (Victoria) requires all students to attend school every day unless unwell. If your child is absent or late, please notify the office. If you’re facing challenges, speak with us—we’re here to help. Let’s work together to support your child’s learning and wellbeing.

### Arriving at School Too Early

We’ve noticed a number of students arriving at school far too early in the mornings. For safety and supervision reasons, **students should not be on school grounds before 8:30 am**. There is no staff supervision available before this time.

If you need your child to be at school earlier, please use our **Out of Hours School Care (OHSC)** service. Bookings can be made through YMCA.

We appreciate your support in keeping all students safe and ensuring they are properly supervised before the school day begins.

### Victorian Education Updates

As part of the recent State Budget, several positive initiatives have been introduced:

- \$400 per student through the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- Free travel for children under 18 on weekends
- Continued support for Free Kindergarten
- Get Active Kids vouchers to help cover the cost of sports and rec activities

We welcome these supports, which help reduce barriers and increase access for all families.

Russel Cowan



**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.**

**JUL 17 TERM DATES 2025 JUL 17**

- TERM 1: Thursday 30th Jan - Thursday 3rd April
- TERM 2: Tuesday 22nd April - Friday 4th July
- TERM 3: Monday 21st July - Friday 19th Sept
- TERM 4: Monday 6th Oct - Friday 19th Dec

# Trivia Night Update

Saturday's trivia night brought together staff and parents for an evening of friendly competition, games, and laughter. The event was a fantastic success, creating a wonderful sense of community as teams battled for the ultimate prize. Congratulations to Foundation teacher Sharon Smith-Francis, who led her team to victory and claimed the trivia night crown!

Our silent auction raised an impressive \$1,224, and we're incredibly grateful to all the local businesses who generously donated items and services for both the auction and our raffle. Don't forget to get your [raffle tickets](#) - the draw is this Friday! Check out some of the great prizes.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May**

Division Netball  
 Assembly

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June**

Kings Birthday Public Holiday

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June**

School Council Meeting

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June**

Foundation Tour

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June**

Assembly

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June**

Assembly

Reports Emailed Home

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July**

Last day of term

Students dismissed at 1.30pm

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize valued at \$617 includes:**

- Showbiz Cinemas Family Pass (5 tickets)
- Bunnings Voucher
- Ballarat Allied Health gift voucher
- MSP Photographers Premium Photo Pack
- JM Leech Jewellers products
- Gold Rush Mini Golf 4 Child Vouchers
- The Sporting Globe voucher
- Wen and Ware Voucher

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize valued at \$455 includes:**

- MSP Photographers Premium Photo Pack
- Mown Down Gift Voucher
- Art Club Hub Double Casual Canvas Voucher
- Ballarat Ten Pin Bowling Family pass
- Brown Grain Thai voucher
- The Sporting Globe voucher
- Ballarat Physi Pole Kids Class voucher
- Gold Rush Mini Golf 2 Child Vouchers
- Golden Nugget Bakery Sturt Street Voucher

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize valued at \$280**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize valued at \$233**

**Child safety and wellbeing at Alfredton Primary School:**

Information for families and the school community

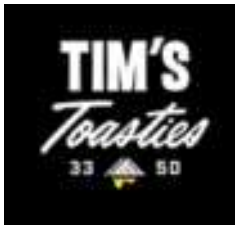
The Victorian Government has Child Safe Standards to further strengthen child safety across organisations, including schools. The standards recognise the critical importance of families and the broader school community in maintaining and promoting child safety and wellbeing.

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





















thank you



to all of our generous sponsors for their donations to our silent auction and raffles. Please support them if you can.



### TERM 2 | CALENDER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
20 <sup>th</sup> April Week 1	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>
27 <sup>th</sup> Week 2	28 <sup>th</sup> <b>Scholastic Book Fair</b>	29 <sup>th</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup> <b>NEWSLETTER</b> Foundation Tour 10am 	1 <sup>st</sup> MAY	2 <sup>nd</sup> <b>ASSEMBLY</b> 	3 <sup>rd</sup>
4 <sup>th</sup> Week 3	5 <sup>th</sup>  <b>Swimming 6C</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Foundation Tour 12pm	7 <sup>th</sup> Mothers Day Stall	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup> <b>Division Cross Country.</b>	10 <sup>th</sup>
11 <sup>th</sup> Week 4	12 <sup>th</sup>  <b>Swimming Year 2 and 6A</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> School Council Meeting	14 <sup>th</sup> <b>NEWSLETTER</b> <b>Division Soccer</b> 	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup> <b>ASSEMBLY</b> 	17 <sup>th</sup>
18 <sup>th</sup> Week 5	19 <sup>th</sup> <b>Swimming FOUNDATION classes</b> 	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup> <b>Division AFL</b> 	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup> <b>TRIVIA NIGHT</b> 
25 <sup>th</sup> Week 6	26 <sup>th</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup> <b>NEWSLETTER</b> 	29 <sup>th</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup> <b>ASSEMBLY</b> <b>Division Netball</b> 	31 <sup>st</sup>
1 <sup>st</sup> June Week 7	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>
8 <sup>th</sup> Week 8	9 <sup>th</sup> <b>KINGS BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b> 	10 <sup>th</sup> School Council Meeting	11 <sup>th</sup> <b>NEWSLETTER</b> 	12 <sup>th</sup> Foundation Tour 10am	13 <sup>th</sup> <b>ASSEMBLY</b> 	14 <sup>th</sup>
15 <sup>th</sup> Week 9	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>
22 <sup>nd</sup> Week 10	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup> <b>NEWSLETTER</b> 	26 <sup>th</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup> <b>ASSEMBLY</b> Reports Emailed Home 	28 <sup>th</sup>
29 <sup>th</sup> Week 11	30 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Parent Teacher interviews <b>Students finish at 1.00pm</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Last Day of Term 2 <b>Students finish at 1.30pm</b>	5 <sup>th</sup>

# Mental Health and Wellbeing

## Understanding and Managing Anxiety in Children

### Key Facts About Anxiety in Children

- **Anxiety is Common:** Anxiety is a normal part of childhood, especially during times of change or new experiences.
- **Anxiety Can Be Managed:** With the right support, children can learn to manage anxiety and develop healthy coping strategies.
- **Social and Academic Pressures:** Pressures from friendships or school expectations can increase anxiety. Keeping communication open can help children navigate these challenges.

By recognising the signs and supporting your child, you can help them feel more confident in managing anxiety and thriving in their daily life.

As a parent or caregiver, it can be difficult to watch your child struggle with anxiety. The pressures of school, social situations, and daily routines can overwhelm them, leading to feelings of worry.

Anxiety is common in primary school-aged children, and recognising its signs and learning how to manage it can make a significant difference.

### Recognising the Signs of Anxiety

Anxiety can show up in various ways, both emotionally and physically. Look for these common signs:

- **Physical Complaints:** Frequent stomach aches or headaches with no clear cause may be linked to stress.
- **Changes in Behaviour:** Children may withdraw socially, become clingy, or show irritability. Separation anxiety is also common, especially at school drop-off.
- **Sleep Issues:** Anxiety can cause trouble falling asleep or lead to nightmares.
- **Difficulty Concentrating:** Anxious children may struggle to focus on schoolwork or everyday tasks.
- **Avoidance:** If your child suddenly refuses school or activities they once enjoyed, they may be trying to avoid anxiety-inducing situations.



### Helpful Tips for Managing Anxiety

Here are some strategies to help ease your child's anxiety:

- **Establish a Routine:** A consistent daily schedule can help reduce uncertainty and make your child feel more secure.
- **Encourage Open Communication:** Let your child know it's okay to talk about their feelings and validate their emotions without judgement.
- **Teach Relaxation Techniques:** Practice breathing exercises or mindfulness together to help your child calm down when feeling anxious.
- **Limit Stressful Stimuli:** Avoid overwhelming your child with too many activities or expectations. Ensure they have time to relax and have fun.
- **Model Calmness:** Children often mimic their parents. Managing your own stress calmly can help them learn to do the same.
- **Seek Professional Help if Needed:** If anxiety is interfering with daily life, consider speaking to a paediatrician or therapist for additional support.



# Wellbeing



## Foodbank Victoria

### 📞 How to Access Support

Please contact the school office if your family requires a Home Food Pack. We can add you to our rotating list to receive these packs. All assistance is confidential and provided with care.

### 🍏 Free Fruit & Food Relief Support for Families

Our school is proud to partner with Foodbank Victoria, ensuring all students have access to nutritious food and supporting families in need.

### 🍏 Free Fruit for All Students

Thanks to our collaboration with Foodbank Victoria, fresh fruit is available to every student at school. This initiative is part of the School Breakfast Clubs Program, which provides healthy meals to over 1,000 schools across Victoria. Since its launch, the program has delivered more than 20 million meals, helping students start their day with the nutrition they need to learn and grow. We have apples, pears, carrots, and oranges available to every classroom.

### 📦 Food Relief Boxes for Families

We understand that some families may need additional support. Foodbank Victoria's Home Food Packs program offers discreet, non-branded food relief boxes containing essential items like cereal, canned vegetables, pasta, and more. These packs are available to families facing hardship and are distributed every school day.

Together, we're ensuring that no child goes hungry and that every family has the support they need. If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to reach out to Alli or our friendly office staff.

Stay nourished, stay connected.



## Home Food Packs

Home food pack sample:

- VitaBrits
- UHT Milk
- Baked Beans
- Fruit Cups
- Vegemite
- Spaghetti
- Soups
- Tuna, Rice and Vegetable Bowl
- Tomato and Veggie Rice Mini Meal



# 日本語 News



In Japan, Kodomo no Hi (Children's Day) is celebrated yearly on May 5th. This national holiday honours and respects children for their individual strengths and wishes happiness upon them. Kodomo no Hi is especially known for its unique traditions and decorations. One of the most recognisable symbols is the display of koinobori (carp streamers), which are flown on poles to bring luck and good fortune to children. The koi (carp), known for its strength and determination, symbolises the hope that children will grow up to be brave and determined individuals.



Students had fun making origami koi & kabuto (samurai helmets) with Year 10 work experience student Lygh.

# Library News

## SCHOLASTIC Book Club

### ISSUE 4 OPEN NOW!

**\$5** Earn a  
**PROMO CODE**  
Included with order confirmation!



Providing Value to Families

## Book Club

ORDERS ARE DUE  
**Wed 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**June**

SCHOLASTIC Book Club



Every  
Book Club  
LOOP order  
earns a

**\$5** **PROMO CODE**  
Included with order confirmation

to spend on our  
next Issue.

### How to Order Online

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO  
ORDER THROUGH LOOP.

OR

DOWNLOAD  
THE HANDY  
LOOP APP.

BOOK CLUB  
**LOOP**  
for parents  
Linked Online  
Ordering Platform



# Library News

Victorian  
premiers'  
reading  
challenge

20 years of  
Words and Wonder

VICTORIA  
State  
Government

**The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge  
is well under way and Alfredton Primary School is  
excited to be taking part!**

So far 440 books have been finished  
and 173 more have been added ready to read.

*Congratulations*  
to our **STAR READERS**

who received a special certificate and  
were able to choose a prize from the library for their great efforts.

## **March**

Eloise Condon FC, Albert Harbottle 2A,  
Cody Jarman 2B, Patrick Moore 2C,  
Anvi Khandelwal 3B, Rose Jarman 5A

## **April**

Harper Liddy FC, Lucas Woolley 1B, Isaac OConnor 2B,  
Marshall Howlett 3A, Astrid Miller 4A, Beau Hildebrand  
4A, Sachin Vignesh 5B, Kovid Bajaj 6C

**It's not too late to login and get started, visit  
[www.vic.gov.au/premiers-reading-challenge](http://www.vic.gov.au/premiers-reading-challenge)**

# PE & Sports

Thirty-three Alfredton Primary School students proudly wore the green and yellow guernsey as they competed in the Sovereign Division AFL 9s. We entered three teams into the round-robin tournament: two mixed teams and one girls' team.

All teams represented Alfredton with pride, enthusiasm, and great sportsmanship. While we didn't come home with the chocolates, we returned as stronger footballers and proud of what we achieved together.

A huge thank you to all the students, staff, and families who helped organise the day and supported us throughout.

Here are some student recounts and reflections from the day.



## AFL 9s Girls Side Match Day Recap

On Wednesday, 21st of May, we went to Marty Busch Reserve to play AFL 9s.

Firstly, we played Miners Rest and lost 18-14. Meika kicked 1 goal, Luella kicked 1 goal and 1 point, and Dex scored one point too.

Secondly, we played Pleasant Street, and we won 36-14. Indy scored 2 goals, Meika scored 3 goals, and Luella scored 2 goals.

Thirdly, we played Lucas and lost 24-18. Meika kicked another 2 goals, Luella kicked 1 goal, but Lucas were a bit too strong.

Lastly, we played Wathaurong and lost 24-18. Meika kicked 1 goal, Luella kicked another goal, and Bella kicked 1 goal.

Thanks to Mr. Huglin, Zoe, Mr. Fletcher, and Mr. Faulkhead for helping us at football.

*By Annie and Indy*



# PE & Sports

## Year 5 and 6 Soccer

On Wednesday, May 14th Alfredton played in a Sovereign Division soccer tournament at Ballarat Regional Soccer Facility.

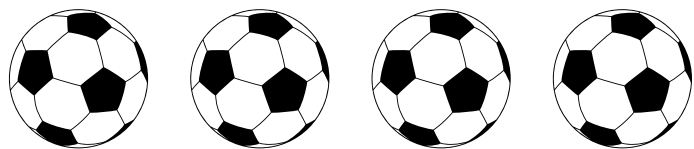
Our Girls team played Buninyong, Haddon, Black Hill and Grammar recording two wins, a draw and a loss with a third place overall finish.

Our boys team played Buninyong, Black Hill, North Ballarat and Clarendon with two wins and two losses.

**Congratulations to all the students that represented the school, they put in a great effort! Thanks Mr. Busija and Isla for their great coaching.**

**Girls Team - Maeve, Layla, Stella, Indy, Isabelle, Ramona, Manshika, Luella, Gemma, Amelia. Ava**

**Boys Team - Phoenix, Isaac, Cody, Jack, Miles, Tom, Ryan, Jackson, Oakley, Marvin and Darcy**



## Year 5 & 6 Soccer Student Recounts:

Game 1 we played Buninyong and sadly lost 2-0 but we kept our heads up and we won our next game against Black Hill with it being 3-0.

With our new found confidence we won our next game against North Ballarat 2-1 but sadly lost our next 5-0 against Clarendon, but we still came second in our pool of 6 teams.

Written by Phoenix

## Year 5 & 6 Soccer Student Recounts:

On Wednesday the 14th of May, the Alfredton Primary year 5 and 6s went to Moorshead Park to play Division Soccer. We played 4 games for the day. We won 2 and tied 1 and we lost one.

Firstly, we played against Buninyong Primary, and we tied 0-0. It was a very competitive game, and we nearly scored 2 goals.

Secondly, we played against Black Hill Primary, and we won 6-1. Stella scored 1 goal, Ramona got 2 and Layla got 3. This game was also fun because we enjoyed the victory.

Next, we played Haddon Primary and we won 8-0. Ramona got 1 goal, Stella got 2, and Layla got 5. This game was a good trial game before our big game against Ballarat Grammar.

Finally, we played against Grammar and lost 2-0. This game was very tough but we did our best and kept trying. They were the best team out of every school that was there. We were one goal away from getting into the finals.

It was a fun experience and we would recommend it to other students for the years coming.

Thanks to Isla for being a great coach. We all very much enjoyed having you as our coach.

Written by Layla, Maeve and Stella.



# Foundation

## Literacy Update (reading writing)

In Literacy, the Foundation children have been busy showing off their newly acquired phonics and high-frequency word knowledge during our mid-year assessment tasks. Last Monday morning, we set off on an adventure to the playground sandpits to dig, explore and play with ocean and jungle animals. The children set up scenarios and had a great time working together. After this experience, we returned to the classroom to write sentences about our time in the sandpit.

It was fantastic to see the children putting their creative ideas onto paper, using all of their knowledge about sentence writing, including upper and lowercase letters, spaces and full stops, and fantastic illustrations.

Last week they also participated in National Simultaneous Storytime, we enjoyed reading and responding to the story Truck Cat, which linked beautifully with our studies in History around self and belonging. This week we will begin learning our next set of grapheme-phoneme correspondences in Phonics, these are Jj, Ww and Vv. Our new High-Frequency Words are he, she, me and we.

## Numeracy Update

In Mathematics, the Foundation children have continued to consolidate their understanding of partitioning numbers to 10. They have revised counting collections and recognising and recording numerals.

They have also engaged in several mid-year assessment tasks covering all areas of the Mathematics curriculum that we have previously explored. We congratulate the children on their effort and perseverance during the assessment period.

## Any other Areas of key learning?

We are incredibly proud of how the Foundation children conducted themselves during their first-ever school excursion and Swimming Week. We thank them for demonstrating our school values when getting ready for, travelling to and swimming at the pool.

The children challenged themselves to learn new skills both in and out of the water and many developed a new-found sense of independence. We saw many smiles, laughs and a few yawns to round out the week. We are sure everyone needed a big rest over the weekend, including the teachers!

## What can you do to support your child?

- Information was sent home last week about our upcoming History task. Please see your classroom teacher if you have any questions or if you did not receive the note. We are looking forward to seeing how the children choose to present their projects!
- We are so excited to be finally able to send home our new decodable readers, we have had more arrive from our suppliers and are still reaching out for volunteers to assist with covering these books. Please endeavour to read with your child every night, books will be changed approximately every second day to allow for fluency practice, however, it is expected that children all bring their green reader bag to school every single day.
- Whilst small, these decodable books are very expensive to purchase. It is important that they are well cared for and returned to school promptly. We understand that accidents happen, if a book sustains damage whilst in your home, please return it and inform your classroom teacher so that repairs can be made quickly.

## Key dates and reminders

- We are looking forward to welcoming members from the Fire Brigade on June 3rd & 11th to talk to our children about Emergency Services in the community and fire safety.

Regards

Foundation Teachers

Kaitlyn, Sharon, Nicole & Sharni



**Foundation teachers L-R:  
Nicole, Sharon, Kaitlyn, & Sharni**

# Foundation



## Recently in Foundation...



# Year 1

# Year 2

## **Literacy Update (reading writing)**

The students have been applying their knowledge of grapheme (letter) - phoneme (sound) correspondences, which in Phonics Plus we call GPCs, to manipulate words and to read, spell and handwrite words. The children do this every day. Their teacher models and the students read, write and revise words using the correct GPCs and letter formation.

This week and next, the students will revise many taught words where combinations of letters make the sound /a/, such as play, complain, game and those that work together to make the /e/sound, such as bee, tea, thief and scene. They will also revise many high-frequency words (HFWs) defined as words that appear frequently in decodable texts. Some high-frequency words are decodable, such as 'big'. Other HFWs have irregular spelling patterns, such as 'was'.

The students also participated in the National Simultaneous Storytime on Wednesday, 21 May, as they listened to The Truck Cat by Deborah Frenkel. The students have been regularly writing sentences using known GPCs and high-frequency words.

## **Numeracy Update**

Students have continued to develop their understanding of measurement. They have also revisited addition and subtraction strategies, such as count on and count back, split strategy, doubles and known facts in preparation for assessment week.

Many students have been regularly practising their counting skills to master counting by twos, fives and tens and their addition and subtraction facts to 10 to develop automaticity.

## **Any other Areas of key learning?**

In Geography sessions this week, students will continue learning about Australia, in particular, the significance of National Reconciliation Week and Sorry Day. They will be completing some activities to learn more about these significant events.

## **What can you do to support your child?**

A great activity to try at home is to give your child a highlighter and a page from a paper, magazine or brochure and ask them to highlight a word that occurs frequently in the text, such as, and, the, are etc. This will help them to learn these HFWs so they can automatically recall them from their long-term memory when reading and writing.

## **Literacy Update (reading writing)**

In literacy, the students have been putting their writing knowledge into practice by writing a recount about our swimming from last week. Students used conjunctions such as and, because, and so to expand their sentences with more detail. They also continued to explore using different sequencing words outside of first, second and third.

While completing various literacy assessments, the students have explored a 'roll and read' activating focusing on our previously learnt graphemes /ch/ and /j/ as well as short vowel sounds. They have enjoyed working with a partner to practice their reading and using counters to keep track of how many words they have read. In handwriting we have started a new focus group, looking at our anticlockwise letters (such as a, c, d, e etc.).

During the week the Grade 2's participated in the National Simultaneous Storytime, reading The Truck Cat by Deborah Frenkel. Afterwards, we each made our very own truck cat using an origami technique. The students enjoyed making their own cat with different patterns and facial expressions.

**Numeracy Update** Students have been working very hard to complete different Maths assessments focusing on statistics, number, and algebra. On Wednesday the students completed a new test called PAT Maths looking at their overall maths knowledge. The students used their resilience and problem-solving skills to work through some difficult problems, and we are very proud of their effort.

## **Any other Areas of key learning?**

In digital technology students have continued to practice their touch typing skills to prepare them for the future. The students have also explored using Pivot to create their own stop-animations exploring how to create their own character and scenes. On top of this we have begun to explore an online learning tool called BotLogic. This teaches students all about code by giving the digital system instructions and commands to follow to complete each level.

## **What can you do to support your child?**

We would like to congratulate families who have continued to establish a regular home reading routine. Please continue to listen to your child and ask questions to check for their understanding. The students love to track how many nights they have read and celebrate their reading milestones!

# Year 1 & 2

## Key dates and reminders specific to your grades:

- As the weather gets colder, please ensure that your child has a warm jumper or coat that is labelled!! There are many students with coughs, so it's essential to keep them hydrated and warm during playtime.
- Please remind your child to bring their green reading satchel every day so they can change their book when prompted.
- If your child has lost their library book, kindly write a short note to Kim. This will allow your child to either borrow a new book each week and take it home or, depending on how many books they have lost, they may be allowed to borrow a book but will need to leave it in their tub at school. Thank you for your cooperation!
- As we are currently working through our mid-term assessments, please inform your child's teacher if your child will be away.

Your Year 1-2 Teachers

Mark, Nat, Mary, Cathy, Anna, Helen, Alex, Alyse



**Year 1 teachers L-R:  
Mary, Helen & Nat**



**Year 2 teachers L-R:  
Anna, Mark & Alyse**



Have you signed up to start fundraising with our Doughlicious Cookie Dough?

Billy G's Gourmet Cookie Dough is an exciting fundraiser, made by an Australian, family owned and operated business. There are ten (10) dough-licious flavours to choose from, including the most popular Choc Chunk and the new Cinnamon Donut Cookie Dough!

You can also create your own cookie magic at home with our Golden Classic flavour by adding your own mix ins to your cookies when you bake them! There is even something for your special furry friends, with a cheese flavoured Doggie Dough! Billy G's Gourmet Cookie Dough is exclusive to fundraising – so stock up!

Cookie dough orders must be placed online using the online platform. Create your child's profile by visiting [cookie dough.com.au](http://cookie dough.com.au), click on the Register Button and follow the Prompts. Orders are open until 12<sup>th</sup> June, so make sure you get rolling and create your online fundraising page today!

With delivery planned just before the end of term, this fundraiser is a great activity that can be enjoyed with the whole family during the Winter school holiday.

# Year 3 and 4

## Literacy Update (reading writing)

**In Year 3:** In Year 3, students practiced the reading strategies they had learned throughout the year. They focused on skills such as Finding the Main Idea, Identifying Facts and Details, Understanding Sequence, and Comparing and Contrasting, culminating in presentations of their findings at the end of the week.

In writing, Year 3 students revised Expositions and began exploring the use of adverbs to enhance the descriptive quality of their sentences.

**In Year 4:** Have been utilising their inference skills to make predictions within texts. They have made predictions before, during and after reading as well as focusing making inferences on character emotions.

In Writing, students have begun working on making narratives more descriptive, specifically through the use of verbs and adverbs or adverbial phrases.

## Numeracy Update

**Year 3 Update:** Students have primarily been concentrating on assessments. We are very pleased with the focus and effort that the students have put into their work.

Our focus lessons have centered on subtraction, with students using a menu to choose their specific practice areas.

**Year 4 Update:** Students have been learning strategies to solve subtraction problems with and without regrouping. They have also been applying the CUBES strategy to help them solve worded problems in both addition and subtraction.

Students have also begun their mid year assessments.

## Any other Areas of key learning?

**Year 3 Students:** have continued their work on eSafety and begun to explore the various climates that are around the world and within Australia.

## Any other Areas of key learning?

**Year 4 students** have begun learning about the First Fleet, including who was on board and their roles and responsibilities. This will lead into discussions around colonisation as well as impact on First Nations Australians.

## What can you do to support your child?

- Ensure all stationary items are available at schools, especially greyleads, erasers, rulers, glue sticks and scissors. Please ask your child if these need to be replaced.
- Continue to read nightly. We are very excited to have a few children reaching the 100 night mark already! They are well on their way to reaching 200 nights for the year.
- Ensuring ALL clothing is named. We are beginning to have quite a collection of lost jumpers, hats and coats which are unnamed!
- **Year FOUR:** Encourage your child to log into 'My Numeracy' and complete at least one unit of study for the week. This can be aligned with our current focus area or an area of identified need. Please reach out to teachers if your child requires login details to be sent home.

## Key dates and reminders:

- none

## Kind regards,

**Year 3 Teachers:** Lynn Schuller, Michael Busija, Bethany Devlin.

**Year 4 Teachers:** Matthew Heinrich, Tim Huglin, Monica Angel



**Year 3 teachers L-R:  
Bethany, Michael & Lynn**



**Year 4 teachers L-R:  
Monica, Matthew & Tim**

# Year 5 and 6

## Literacy Update (reading writing)

**Year 5 Update:** In literacy we have finished off our explanation unit with a timed writing piece on the water cycle. We have begun our next writing unit learning about the structure and language features of a procedure. In Reading we have explored text related to our integrated topic, learning about the body systems.

We have practised reading to a partner to increase our confidence and fluency when reading text aloud. We have also continued practicing our summarising and paraphrasing skills to ensure we are putting information into our own words to avoid plagiarism.

**Year 6 Update:** In Writing, students have been developing their persuasive writing skills by exploring a range of persuasive devices to strengthen their exposition pieces. They've been working hard to craft convincing arguments and support their ideas with strong evidence and emotive language.

In Reading, we have launched our novel study on *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. Students have been exploring character traits, making text-to-self connections, and identifying key themes such as kindness, identity, and belonging.

## Numeracy Update

**Year 5 Update:** We have begun our unit on area and perimeter, and revised our knowledge of algorithms for rectangles, parallelograms and triangles, with some students beginning to recognise the area and circumference of circles. We have also begun a maths project incorporating aspects of area and perimeter while creating a tiny home.

**Year 6 Update:** Students have continued building their understanding of the order of operations and how to apply it accurately when solving complex problems. Using function machines has been a fun and engaging way to explore how equations work and how to find missing values. It's been great to see students growing in confidence with these important concepts.

## Any other areas of key learning?

Well done to our Year 5 & 6 students who represented our school in recent sports events. It was wonderful seeing students build confidence and demonstrate teamwork in cross country, soccer, AFL, and netball.

In Integrated Studies: While continuing to learn about the human body, we have completed our unit on body systems, learning about the parts of the human body, what organs complete each body system, and how all systems work together to maintain life. We have begun our unit *Next Stop Puberty*, where we delve into the physical and hormonal changes we go through during puberty.

## What can you do to support your child?

- Check in with your children and have a discussion with them as we learn more about puberty and the natural changes our body goes through during this stage of life. Your child may have already seen some changes within themselves, and may have some unanswered questions that you might be able to help them with.
- **YEAR 5** Encourage nightly reading and reading aloud, helping with difficult words to build fluency. Ask about what they've read to develop summarising and paraphrasing skills.
- **YEAR 6:** Support learning with regular home reading using varied texts (novels, newspapers, magazines, informational materials)
- Reinforce numeracy through practical activities or My Numeracy on Essential Assessment
- During the assessment period: prioritise wellbeing with adequate rest, limited screen time, and relaxation to help them stay focused and confident.

## Key dates and reminders:

- 30th of May - Division Netball

## Kind regards,

**Year 5 Teachers:** Angela Rennie, Teresa Wright, Darcy McQuinn.

**Year 6 Teachers:** Tim Smith, John Saitta, Sarah Mann



**Year 5 & 6 teachers L-R:  
Sarah, Darcy, Arlyn, Tim, John & Teresa  
(Angela absent)**

# School Awards

**FA Whole Class** -For your demonstration of Alfredton's School Values during our swimming week. You were all respectful and responsible and challenged yourselves to learn and try new things. Great Work FA!

**FB Chinwe** - What an amazing start you've made here at Alfredton Primary School! You've settled in beautifully and have already shown a fantastic work ethic. Your positive attitude and commitment to learning truly stand out. We are incredibly lucky to have you as part of our FB classroom – keep up the great work!

**FB Whole Class** - Well done on your excellent behaviour during our swimming week! You consistently displayed the school's values and approached each session with enthusiasm and respect. Your eagerness to participate and the way you listened carefully to the swimming instructors was truly commendable.

**FC Whole Class** -For your wonderful behaviour and effort during our Swimming Week. You should be very proud of the way you represented our school. Well done, FC!

**FD Chisom** - Congratulations on an amazing start at Alfredton Primary. You have shown kindness and confidence, already making new friends and inviting others to share with you. We are lucky to have you as part of Foundation D.

**FD Luke** - Well done Luke for believing in yourself during Maths this week! You were confident, gave things a go and were so proud of yourself. Your smile and happy dance said it all! Keep believing in yourself.

**1A Savannah** - For taking care, to write sentences with correctly formed letters, and even spaces between the words. Keep up the great work, Savannah!

**1A Hunter** - For making a super effort with your reading and having a positive attitude towards learning. A fantastic effort, Hunter!

**1B Purvik** - For showing great focus and attention during our Literacy sessions. Well done, Purvik!

**1B Jaxon** - For showing kindness and assisting your classmates when they need help. Great job, Jaxon!

**1C Yuvan** - For taking care to always present your best work, particularly during writing tasks. You are also a responsible class member who is always willing to help in the classroom. Well done!

**1C Remi** - For showing great focus and interest during our literacy sessions. You are always organised and ready to learn. Well done!

**2A Sonny** - For completing over 100 nights of reading. Congratulations Sonny, keep up the awesome work.

**2A Zeke** - For being a responsible member who is always willing to help. You are such a great friend and always try your best.

**2B Udaybir** - For completing a detailed recount of our swimming program. Congratulations on using the correct structure, including sequence words, and presenting your work neatly. Thank you for always working hard to complete every learning task.

**2B Joseph** - For settling in so well this term and becoming a valuable member of 2B. Congratulations on demonstrating respect and building positive relationships in our classroom.

**2C Titus** - Congratulations on your amazing start at Alfredton Primary School. You have been a wonderful addition to our classroom and always demonstrate kindness and respect. Welcome, Titus!

**2C Ellyana** - Congratulations on your amazing start at Alfredton Primary School. You have been a wonderful addition to our classroom and always demonstrate kindness and respect. Welcome, Ellyana!

**3A Cooper** - For working hard at his self-regulation and applying himself to more of his work.

**3A Milla** - For working independently to improve her spelling and writing.

**3B Japji** - For making a positive start to life at Alfredton Primary School, we are so lucky to have you in our classroom. Keep up the good work, Japji!

**3B Himaru** - For making a positive start to life at Alfredton Primary School, we are so lucky to have you in our classroom. Keep up the good work, Himaru!

**4A Logan** - For always looking out for your classmates. You are consistently showing kindness and understanding towards your peers. Thanks for being a great friend to all in 4A. Well done, Logan!

**4A Riley** - For your increased effort towards all learning tasks. You are beginning to work hard each day and set good consistent work habits. Keep it up, Riley!

**4B Harlow** - For bringing her bright smile to the classroom every day. It has been fantastic to see her grow in confidence and willingly contribute more to class discussions. Keep up the great work, Harlow!

**4B Thomas** - For his outstanding effort during assessment week. His results clearly reflect the hard work and dedication he has shown. Well done, Thomas!

**5A Tom** - For working through the writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit and publish his explanation about how to make a bank note. He explained the process in concise yet detailed steps using sophisticated technical language and word choice to enhance his explanation.

**5A Rose** - For bringing her voice into her explanation writing by incorporating quirky rhetorical questions as hooks in her opening statements.

**5B Brooklyn** - For working hard during writing tasks by summarising and paraphrasing your writing pieces to the best of your abilities. Well done!

# School Awards

**5B Jordan** - For working hard during maths. You always show a keen interest in topics covered and work hard to reach your personal learning goals. Well done!

**5C Aarush** - For showing great responsibility in keeping our school clean. Aarush always looks out for rubbish in the school yard and doesn't hesitate to pick it up—even when it's not his! Your care and commitment help make our school a better place. Well done, Aarush!

**5C Hansini** - For always being kind, thoughtful, and helpful to both her classmates and teachers. Hansini is a hardworking and cheerful member of our class who is always looking for ways to support others. We are so lucky to have you in our class, Hansini!

**6A Layla** - For your positive attitude towards your Maths. Well done on the work you have completed using the Order of Operations.

**6A Archer** - For an improved effort and attitude towards your learning. You are making great attempts in all learning areas. Keep up the good work.

**6B Lia** - Thank you for your hard work during Reading and Spelling sessions. Well done!

**6B Riku** - Thank you for the incredibly high standard you set for your work and your ability to seek feedback. Well done!

**6C Jake** - For your outstanding effort and determination during our assessment period. You've worked hard, stayed focused, and made fantastic progress in your learning. Keep up the amazing work Jake!

**6C Manshika** - For your outstanding effort and determination during our assessment period. You've worked hard, stayed focused, and made fantastic progress in your learning. Well done on your perseverance and positive attitude Manshika!

Thank you

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