TERM 3 2015
GRADE 1/2 NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

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<th>DATE</th>
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<td>20th July</td>
<td>100 days of school</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th August</td>
<td>Imax/Museum Excursion</td>
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<td>September 11th</td>
<td>1/2 Unit Sleepover</td>
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Information

Thank you to all students, parents and carers who supported Education Week. It was great to see so many parents and their children from the 1/2 Unit attend the evening information session. Parents had the opportunity to take part in a lesson with their child, based on the Inquiry Topic ‘Then and Now’.

History Box Incursion

The incursion was a very hands on experience for the children. Some children dressed up in ‘then’ clothes. Everyone laughed. The children were intrigued by many items they saw and held. They wrote with ink pens and played games such as marbles, hopscotch and top spin.

Also thank you for:
A big thank you to those families and students who participated in ‘The National Reading Month Challenge’ in May. You have successfully tracked your family reading time at home for a whole month. Well done and congratulations.

Literacy

Students will be focusing on the reading comprehension strategies: text structure and features and inference. They will be reading and writing, procedural texts and letters/postcards. Students will be sequencing steps and events, selecting appropriate verbs and nouns and the correct layout when writing procedural texts. Students will show their understanding of different genres and comprehension strategies in their recordings of their reflections and in personal goal setting.

As they continue to utilise their Writer’s Notebook, students are developing into more independent, confident and responsible writers. They are selecting their own genre to write. They are more familiar with the writing process as they move from the selection of the topic, writing the draft, revising and editing and publishing.

Numeracy

Units of work covered this term will be: place value, addition, subtraction, time, multiplication, division, fractions, money, length and area.

Students will continue to demonstrate their understanding of the topics, using a variety of materials and strategies. They will also continue to record their thinking, explaining the strategies they use to approach the task.

To reinforce your child’s understanding, you can engage in activities that will require them to:
- read and interpret two, three and four digit numbers in addresses and house numbers
- tell the time using o’clock, half past quarter past and quarter to relating to routines at home
- select appropriate coins to make amounts
- measure ingredients when cooking using terms such as a half or a quarter cup of milk
- measure items using uniform units (something that is always the same size e.g. Unifix block) and informal units such as centimetres

Our SCIENCE based topic this term is “Toys”.

Our Major Topic Understanding is:

People’s imaginations and inventions affect our natural world.

The children will be engaged in activities investigating how toys are made and how their manufacturing impacts on the environment.

Our Focus Questions are:

Why do people need to make changes to the human made and natural world?

What steps do people take to change the human made and natural world?

How does imagination affect design and technology?

How does human made creations affect our natural world?

At some stage, students will be required to construct a toy. For a productive outcome, they will need to start collecting recyclable materials e.g. cereal boxes, bottle caps, plastic containers, clean milk cartons, wrapping paper, ribbons, string, cellophone, feathers, fabric, egg cartons, cling wrap rolls (no toilet rolls). Please collect these at home and bring to school when requested.

An incursion/excursion is in the planning stages. This will allow students to further develop their understanding and experiences.

Parent/carers will receive information shortly.

1/2 Unit: Class Teachers: Helen Myszka, Chantal Touna, David Jaggard
Support staff: Mary Day, Gemma Aktolga
## Specialist’s Curriculum Overview

### Sustainability

This year ‘Planet Ark Tree Day’ will be held on Friday July 25th. ANPS has been an active participant in the ‘Planet Ark Tree Day’ every year for the last 12 years, with all students being involved in planting a tree, helping to improve our school’s environment. This year ANPS has designated the day an ‘Environmental Day’ as part of our school’s commitment to the environment and sustainability and in support of ‘Planet Ark Tree Day’.

Throughout the day, all students will be given the opportunity to plant a native tree in their grade’s designated area in the school’s gardens. Grade 5/6 students will provide the rest of the school with support and guidance in planting and caring for trees.

During the day, students will participate in classroom activities with an Environmental focus. These Environmental activities will assist in the development of the students’ knowledge and appreciation of trees as a sustainable resource and the important role that trees have on our planet.

In support of our ‘Environmental Day’ (Friday July 25th) ANPS will be having a ‘Rubbish Free Day’. We request that all parents support this event by ensuring that children’s ‘snack and lunch’ are packed in containers or materials which can either be recycled or reused with minimal or no rubbish going into the school bins.

It is hoped that the ‘Environmental Day’ will assist students in gaining a greater understanding and connection with their environment and the need to care for it.

Students in grade 3-6 will take part in the Royal Melbourne Show’s School vegetable competition; Altona North Primary School will submit vegetables that are currently growing in our vegetable garden pots for judging at the show.

The school judged the winner is based on the size and quality of the three types of vegetables – Carrots, Beetroot and cabbage.

We look forward with excitement to the construction of the school second “Garden wall” later in the term and the school’s Vegetable Garden Beds. These two projects will further enhance our school ground and learning landscape.

### Cool Australia Enviro Week

During **Cool Australia Enviro Week** to be held on 25th – 31st August, ANPS students will join thousands of other students across Australia in taking action and raising awareness for a sustainable future. Students will be asked to take up a “Green Challenge”, i.e. “Green thumb, waste warrior, traveller” etc, in an effort to highlight the need for responsible environmental actions and behaviors.

Altona North Primary School is an accredited “Water-Live it Learn It” school and as part of our commitment to this program we will commence preparations to participate in the National Water Week, which will be held from the 20th to the 28th of October (Term 4).

Wal Raghdo

### Health and Physical Education

Term Three will be a busy term for the 1/2 students as they continue to use a wide variety of sporting equipment during their physical education lessons. During the term the students will be learning and developing the Fundamental Motor Skills of two handed strike, dodge and run in a modified Hockey unit. They will be taught the correct techniques for passing and trapping a hockey ball, passing accurately, controlling the ball while running and shooting for goal. Students will be involved in playing modified games of Hockey during their class lesson time and will be given the opportunity to work as a team. The students will also participate in a modified unit of Badminton. In this unit they will be introduced to the forehand and backhand strike, learning the correct grip and technique required to strike the shuttle correctly. Opportunities to develop their forehand and backhand strike will be provided through cooperative games with their peers.

Lynette Soto

### Music and Performing Arts

During term three in Music & Performing Arts, students will focus on exploring and participating in Drama, Dance, Music and Performance. This will prepare students for their upcoming term four -school concert performance.

Students will be creating, learning and performing a specific dance and drama routine. Students will work on developing and building their coordination, timing, practice and performance skills. This will be done through participating in class routines, warm ups, small group activities and individually. Students will work together to develop and rehearse a performance, which will be assessed at the end of term.

Cassie McCawley

### Computers

During this term, the children will use multiple website resources to learn about ‘Magnets, Mirrors, Lights and Sounds’. They will create pictures of their inquiry topic, using ‘KidPix 4’ and ‘Kidspiration’. The children will develop the skills of using the paint, pencils, stamps, etc. during the creation of their work and will be writing sentences about their new found knowledge.

They will be learning how to save and open their work.

Joanne Jackson