

Principal's Message

We have a few short weeks left but **it's** a very busy time of the year. We hope the newsletter provides you an insight into what is happening around the school.

Many thanks to our wonderful staff who have worked hard, remained team focussed and have supported children unconditionally in 2021.

A big thankyou to our families and children of Alberton PS who have navigated their way through a wonderful year of learning, fun, challenges, events and a little bit of COVID to deal with.

2022 Student Reports and Class Placement

Class placements were finalised last week. Teachers have done a great job with this and taken into consideration requests, teacher judgements and balance within classes.

The high majority of requests have been met in either full consideration or to some level. Where we have not been able to achieve any part of a request, I will personally contact those families. Your understanding and support in these cases is appreciated.

Student reports and class placement letters for 2022 will be sent on Tuesday 7th December 2021. Contained in the envelope will also be information about the return to school dates for Term 1 2022.

2022 Class Structure:

Nest:

Preschool home groups in Coral

Reception home groups in Yellow and Ochre

Nest children will continue to enjoy the experience of integration throughout our inquiry and play based learning, along with our specialist programs in Physical Education, Music and Life Science.

Broad Street Learning Community:

Classes: 1/2, 1/2, 1/2, 2/3

New Street Learning Community:

Classes: 3/4, 3/4, 4/5, 5/6

Sports Day – What a great day, we were so lucky with the weather!!

We know how important sport and being physically active is to a child and children participated in a range of sports activities during Sports Day. It was wonderful to be able to provide an opportunity for families to attend and watch their children having fun, doing their best and working up a sweat. Great to see Mickey Mouse and Dorothy arrive to surprise our students.

Thankyou to Michael Gill, Christine Vlass, the organising committee and childrens parliament sports ministry for all your hard work in the lead up to the day. We look forward to more days like these in 2022.

Diary Dates

November

Nest Wheelies week
29/11 – 03/12

December

Nest Reception Graduation
Thurs 02/12

Student reports and class
placement sent home
Tues 07/12

Yr 6 & 7 Graduation
Eagles Function Centre
Wed 08/12

Yr 6 & 7
Ringing of the Bell Tradition
Fri 10/12 1:30pm

End of Term 4
Fri 10/12
2:00pm dismissal

Advance Notice

First day back in Term 1 2022
Tuesday 01/02

Term 1 2022 Pupil Free Days
Monday 31/01 & Friday 04/03
Trauma Informed PD

2021 School Terms

TERM 4

11th Oct – 10th Dec



ALBERTON PS SPORTS DAY 2021



Sports Day was held on Thursday 4th November. Students came dressed in their team colours of Blue (Uru), Green (Ukiri) and Yellow (Tjintu), and expressed great excitement about the day ahead. The day saw students participate in up to 6 events, with a number of different events included for the first time (the Target Throw for JP students, and Bell Ball for MP and UP students, a modified event from the Paralympics). The Nest students participated in 3 events which challenged their skills of balance, human movement and control using different body parts. Other highlights of the day included the Yr 6/7 Tug of War, the Team Relay (won by Uru), and the multiple Yr. level sprints which saw some wonderful close finishes.



Final standings for the overall day were:

- 1st Place Uru (520)
- 2nd Place Ukiri (479)
- 3rd Place Tjintu (407)



Governing Council reflections

2021 has been a year where our resilience and resolve has been tested. Many robust discussions that support the functioning of our school have been had, and at our final council meeting of 23 November we had a chance to reflect on where we are at as a school and where we are going. In short, we think we are doing well but this is all about our children and their connection with their learning.

Our strategic review work has provided all voices to be heard and has set the scene for positive change as a result, building on the clear feedback that we are getting it right but can do it even better.

Our focus for 2021 has been on our community with Council creating a committee to lead us, drawing on what you are telling us. This work has just started and will be a focus moving forward, our pizza night was just a beginning and a platform for building stronger connections with our community. Council have submitted a Parents in Education grant application with the Department which if approved will provide even more options for growth.

Significantly, Council identified a limitation in our constitution and have requested an amendment to remove these moving forward. In particular this reflects growing awareness of the place of reconciliation and the importance of allowing all voices to be heard and means in real terms that if accepted as intended, our Aboriginal families will be able to identify their representatives to Council in a way that they decide.

Overall, after 15 years of children attending APS, this is my final year and I can not be more proud of how all of my children have been supported and nurtured to become lovers of learning, to understand difference and to be able to find solutions when things are not going their way.

Alberton Primary School is a great school, enjoy it!
Dash

Breakfast Club

Next Friday the 3rd of December students who participate in Breakfast Club will be given the opportunity to 'give back' and host an English Breakfast for our Volunteers from Kickstart for Kids, and MRS Property. This Breakfast event will be held in the cafe from 8.15am to 9.00am.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students to acknowledge their gratitude toward our Kickstart and MRS Property volunteers, and their contribution to Breakfast Club 2021.

Due to this event, Breakfast Club will operate on Monday the 29th of November and Wednesday 1st of December during Week 8. There will be no breakfast club for students on Friday the 3rd of December. If you require support in providing breakfast for your child on Friday the 3rd of December, please contact Christine Vlass (Wellbeing Leader) via christine.v982@schools.sa.edu.au or (08) 8447 1924.

Well done to all students involved in coordinating this breakfast for our volunteers.



Volunteers Welcomed

If your interested in volunteering some time in the canteen, garden or resource centre for 2022, please drop us a line or pop in to see Lauren or Angela in the front office for further information. Register your interest and we can help you from there 😊



COVID Update

Throughout 2021, as a school community we have navigated the challenges of COVID seamlessly, with a sense of care and kindness towards each other. As a staff team, we say thankyou for your understanding and support. It truly has been a wonderful year.

We have found creative ways to address any hurdles that COVID has presented and continued to have families spend time engaging in the school (albeit, with a few restrictions).

Department of Education and SA Health are continuing to work together to provide advice and updates to schools. Below are some reminders as we approach the end of the year and we will update families in 2022 regarding any further changes.

- Wearing of masks are not required outdoors when on school grounds or entering the Nest but they are encouraged. They are required to be worn if you enter school buildings, including the Nest.
- **Sign in using QR Code when entering the school grounds, nest or buildings. QR Code's are displayed around the school.**
- Wherever possible, socially distance when gathering outside or inside school grounds. All school events have a COVID safe plan in place.

Hand sanitiser dispensers are installed in entrance areas of buildings and on many of the main gate entrances. Additional school cleaning during the day has continued throughout the whole of 2021, including entrance areas and high traffic gates and door handles.

News from The Nest

Playgroup Celebration

Each Friday morning throughout the year the Nest warmly welcomes our youngest members of the Alberton school community, and their families, to our Playgroup. Last Friday, the playgroup held their end of year celebration in the school garden and café. Jess James from Cook n Create facilitated a cooking experience for the playgroup children. The children looked fantastic in their chef hats and aprons, and each child made their own pizza. Children and families had the opportunity to play games and explore the wonderful school garden while the pizzas cooked. The coffee van was kept busy making many coffees and Baby Chinos.

We are fortunate to have a thriving playgroup and really value providing the opportunity for our extended school community to connect and utilise the great Nest facilities. Thank you to all who have attended, helped out, and welcomed new families. Thank you also to Kate McKenzie our Playgroup Coordinator, who each week sets up engaging learning experiences and group time activities for children!

We look forward to welcoming many of the playgroup children into the Nest next year as pre schoolers.

Playgroup will be back again on Friday mornings in 2022!



Community Promotions

Introducing...Drone Camp!

Brand-new to Code Camp this summer, Drone Camp is our latest hands-on technology program for 9-13 year olds.

Exclusively licensed from the incredible US-based Drone Legends, it's the coolest intersection of STEM learning and fun where kids get a taste of cutting-edge drone technology and learn about coding, problem-solving, engineering, design, and more!

Working in teams they will code their flight path and watch in wonder as their drone takes off, then navigate through an obstacle course designed by them. They'll learn about drone tech and safety, movie making, and discover how drones can save the world by fighting bushfires, rescuing koalas, spotting sharks on the coast and loads more!

Just go to the  [CODECAMP](https://www.codecamp.com) website to register.



Loop orders will be open until the end of night, sorry no money orders