

# Alberton PS

## Annual General Meeting (AGM)

*Belonging - Wellbeing –Success - Diversity – Discovery*

### 2021 School Highlights:

#### **Aunty Rosey's Memorial Garden:**

On **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021** our community officially opened the Meeting and Memorial Garden honouring Aunty Rosey. It was a beautiful morning with performances from the Alberton School Choir and Aboriginal Dance Group. Karl Telfer welcomed families, children and community with his powerful acknowledgement, smoking ceremony and personal reflections. It was a very memorable and touching morning that symbolised togetherness, unity, community and care.

#### **Specialist Art Exhibition:**

We celebrated the **wonderful** artists and learning that has happened over the year in Specialist Art to form the 2021 Specialist Art exhibition. Students worked during their break times and committed to coming after school to create a gallery of their work using different mediums, techniques and talents. It was a terrific exhibition.

#### **Year 6/7 Camp: (Student Report)**

We have had a brilliant start to term 2 with our Year 6 & 7 students enjoying a camp along the Murray River. We had so much fun exploring the local environment, developing friendships, eating yummy food, raising the roof of the campsite with Karaoke and keeping our teachers up the first night. We were pretty tired the second night 😊. The best part of the camp was bringing together our Year 6 & 7 students to strengthen our learning community.

#### **Year 6/7 Tree Climb Experience:**

Students were challenged physically and mentally with some stepping out of their comfort zone as they took on 5 progressively challenging obstacle courses set in the tree-tops, featuring zip-lines and an exhilarating Tarzan swing. The course consisted of 52 challenges and was designed for all abilities. Students experienced amazing views from each aerial and tree-top path. On the excursion we saw our students take risks, encourage others and share in the fun and adventure of the experience which built our class culture amongst our senior group.

#### **Reverse Interviews and 3 Way Interviews:**

The school provided increased opportunities for families to work in partnership to discover more about the learning journey and progress of their child. We held Reverse Interviews in Term 1 (Meet and Greet) and 3 Way Interviews in Term 3 to unpack a child's student report. We saw over 85% of families take up these opportunities, which was terrific.

#### **Grounds & Facilities Upgrades:**

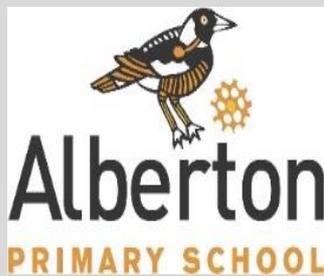
We saw many upgrades and repairs made to the school throughout 2021 including: new height adjustable basketball poles, cricket pitch repairs, soccer goals installed, garden upgrades, classroom refurbishment such as new carpet, painting and noise reducing, glazed sliding doors. We have embarked on a complete ICT Infrastructure upgrade including improving WIFI connectivity, 1:1 device roll out and hardware upgrades.

#### **School Fencing Upgrade:**

The school's fencing upgrade was completed in Term 2. The flow of the Nest fencing continues around the entire school. This improves the look of our school and helps to direct visitors through 1-2 main areas during school hours. This was a DfE funded project. Our school remains open to the public after hours and can be accessed via the Broad Street community access gate.

#### **Insect Garden Upgrade:**

Over the summer break, Eric one of the staff in the Nest, spent time redeveloping the Nest's Insect Garden to enhance the Diversity of habitats and insects in the area. Many different spaces have been created using rocks, wood, plants, leaves and other natural materials. The Nest children have loved exploring the Insect Garden and are very excited to share what insects they have found.



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### Specialist Areas:

Our **Specialist** program operates across the whole week and all children have access on a weekly basis to these areas. Environmental Science and Sustainability, Physical Education & Health, Visual Arts, Positive Education and Music make up our specialist areas. They focus on deepening understanding, broadening experiences and strengthening the pathways that children can choose from at Alberton PS. These areas are strongly connected to the **Australian Curriculum**, will reflect quality **assessment and reporting** for learners and provide **future pathways** through to secondary schooling.

### Nature Play Upgrade:

Concept and design plans for the **new nature playground** (will replace the existing playgrounds on the oval) are underway. The Environments Ministry have led this major project, consulted with community and are now in the final stage of design. This is co-funded between the Port Adelaide and Enfield Council and our School. Sustainability, connection to Kaurna Land and the incorporating features of the Nest and Life Science Centre will feature in the design. This has been a long-standing visionary project of the school and it's wonderful that we can work together to bring it to life.

### Children's Parliament:

A strong student leadership group is really important and 2021 was no different at Alberton PS. Congratulations to Edie (Yr 7 Prime Minister), Ngarpardi (Yr 6 Prime Minister) and Molly (Yr 7 Deputy PM) and Jemimah (Yr 6 Deputy PM) who were elected to these roles for 2021. Congratulations to our Treasurer, Shaniquah and Deputy Treasurer, Jayden, our Ministers Zaria (Sport), Ngarpardi (ATSI Nations), Jemimah (Public Relations), Emil (Diversity), Lottie (Environments), Jordan (Education) and Jemimah (Community Affairs). Christine Vlass and Kaine Volkov supported our Children's Parliament in 2021 along with Jo Statton and Michael Gill. We saw student leaders attend Governing Council meetings to talk about progress of projects, answer questions from members and learn more about school governance.

### Instrumental Music:

This program was launched in 2021. This is led by external tutors who come to the school to teach brass, woodwind and percussion, offering lessons free of charge to students for the entire school year. The benefits of learning a musical instrument extend far beyond the music room, and positively impact on a child's learning throughout their schooling. Our school band was formed on the back of this program and performed at our Performing Arts Showcase night.

### Smith Family:

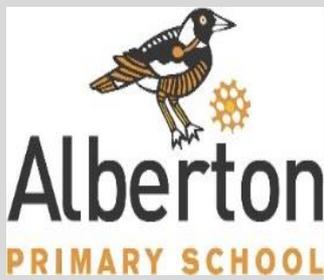
The Smith Family supports long term participation in education through the provision of timely opportunities and support, enabling students to optimise their education outcomes. The Smith Family offers Learning for Life Scholarships, Programs and Support throughout the primary, secondary and tertiary education years. Our commitment to form strong partnerships with outside agencies will continue beyond 2021 to further support families and children where needed.

### SAPSASA:

37 students were selected to participate in a variety of different events, these included: 100m, 200m, 800m, Discus, Shot Put, High Jump, Long Jump, 4 x 100m Relay. Every student, whether in 1 or 4 events, tried their very best on the day, with some fortunate enough to return to school and proudly tell peers, teachers, family and friends about the ribbon they were wearing. A highlight was the great performance of students who raced in the 4 x 100m Relay races. The practicing of baton changes was well worth the effort, with all teams winning a ribbon in the races that took place. A big thank you to Ms Vlass, Jill (SSO from Blue) and the parents who assisted on the day, in particular Michelle Cragg who helped as a volunteer on the High Jump, and Amanda Nelson who took some great photos and helped make the day a huge success.

### Learning Club:

The learning club is every **Monday from 3pm - 4pm** in the library. This is a great opportunity to finish off any learning from class in a fun environment! We had many students and parents drop in and thank the Smith Family for their support in running this program.



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### **Compost – if it grows then it goes!!**

Students are excited to take sustainable action at Alberton through installing BINSHIFT compost bins across the site. Students will explore and investigate what compost is, what goes in a compost bin and how compost is made at home and commercially. Key vocabulary and concepts that students will be learning include compostable, non-compostable, biodegradable, nitrogen rich material, carbon rich material, microorganisms, decompose, heat production and compost accelerators. The first stage of the process will see students taking responsibility for the collection of compost in their classrooms. This is a great opportunity to empower students to care for the environment and take the lead in educating our school community.

### **Reconciliation Week:**

The theme for **National Reconciliation Week 2021** was *'More Than a Word, Reconciliation Takes Action'*. We were invited to attend Tauondi College for 'Reconciliation in the West' which was a wonderful local community event. Junior Primary classes focused on the meaning behind Reconciliation and created art work using Aboriginal Symbols. A focus on the designer, Jessica Johnson who created the graphics for this year's theme supported children in creating their own art work which is on display in The Hive. Two special mornings were spent in The Nest with Middle and Upper Primary Learners sharing their Aboriginal Dance and creating Charcoal art work together. It was a great opportunity to share stories and learn from each other across age groups.

We were invited to **'Kids on Country'** Day where activities included Native Plant Propagation, Bush Food and Artefact investigating, Nature Art, Riverstone painting and traditional and contemporary Aboriginal Dance. It was an enjoyable day joining 14 Department for Education Schools sharing in Reconciliation experiences together at Wirramenthi (Park 23). Thank you to the Adelaide City Council for this positive learning experiences.

### **New School Website:**

Student leaders worked alongside Christine Vlass and staff to redesign our school's website. It looks amazing and we received lots of positive feedback from current and new families. We added special features, a virtual tour video, easy to access information for families and a gallery of the amazing things happening at Alberton. Information will be continually updated in 2022.

### **Wheels Week in the Nest:**

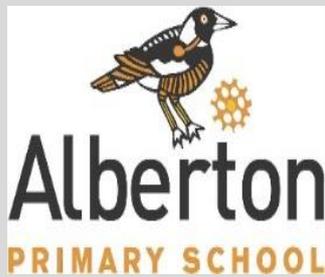
To **celebrate** the last week of each term, Nest children are able to participate in wheels week. Wheels week is a fun and engaging experience where children are able to bring in their bikes, scooters and anything else with wheels to safely ride around the carpark. It is wonderful to see and hear the happiness on the children's faces as they ride around the car park, encouraging each other and using their imaginations in their play to set up a petrol station.

### **Performing Arts Showcase:**

A very big congratulations to all our students for showing character strengths of bravery, teamwork and persistence as they worked together in their magpie groups on practising, perfecting, and performing their inquiry learning. The Arts curriculum provides all students with the opportunity to get out of their comfort zone, be brave and share their passions. We are so proud of each and every student for their enthusiasm to get on stage and be brave. Thank you to our 3 amazing audiences for coming along to watch. We had over 350 audience members across the 3 performances.

### **Festival of Music: (School Choir)**

Nine of our Year 5, 6 & 7 choir students travelled to the Adelaide Entertainment Centre to perform in the **130th Annual Festival Of Music**. Students from over 300 public schools across South Australia combined to perform in the Festival of Music - providing students with the opportunity to perform at prestigious venues in a **celebration** of the Arts in the choir, dance troupe and orchestra. Zali C in Blue Magpie was selected and performed in all 4 performances in the dance troupe. Great stuff team!!



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### **Cook n Create – Our New Cooking program at Alberton PS:**

**Jess James**, Director of 'Cook n Create' will be partnering with Alberton PS to facilitate the 'Bub n Bake' program. This program is for preschool age children and parents and is a very popular program within the West. Feel free to visit her website at [www.cookncreate.com.au](http://www.cookncreate.com.au). This is an exciting opportunity for Alberton moving forward. Jess is a fully qualified and highly accomplished teacher from the UK who has been in Australia for the past 5 years and working across a range of community and school sites. Our cooking program will be introduced into our Life Science Centre program in 2022. There will be a strong focus on Food Science as part of this and connected strongly to our science, sustainability and literacy focus.

### **Year 6/7 Aquatics:**

Our year 6/7s started term 4 with fun in the sun by the waterside at West Lakes Aquatic Centre. As we buckled ourselves in for the short drive to the aquatic centre there was an air of excitement. The year 7s were **stoked** about returning again for their second year of water activities, and the year 6s couldn't wait to **join in the fun!** **Teamwork** and **persistence** were at the forefront of the kayaking and canoeing trek, with children participating in challenges and **helping** those who had difficulty with their direction. Feedback from the staff from aquatics was a testament to our senior students, **great job team!**

### **After School Sports:**

During terms 3 and 4, a group of Year 2/3 girls have participated in an after-school netball competition on Wednesdays. The games have been played at the St. Clair Recreation Centre and from all reports, it's been a lot of fun. Students have also had the opportunity to play Saturday morning soccer and it's been a lot of fun for players and parents. We look forward to growing the program in 2022.

### **APS Strategic Vision:**

Anna Bartsch, an independent review and planning consultant commenced her work with our school community. A core outcome for our families was to be part of co-designing a 5-year plan for APS. A number of workshops, surveys and information sessions were provided in 2021 which has informed the 5-year plan. The 5-Year Strategic Plan will be launched in Term 1, 2022.

### **External School Review – 12 month on track evaluation:**

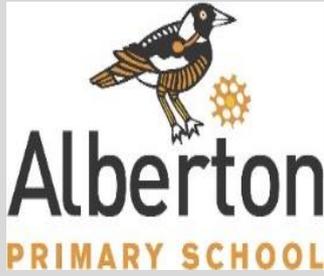
Alberton Primary School participated in the 12 month on track evaluation. The External Review concluded that Alberton Primary school is working towards meeting the recommendations and have implemented the necessary steps to begin a learning improvement journey for each child. This work takes time and considered planning, dedication, commitment and team work. Together we will work through not only the next stage of the learning journey for children but also the school's Strategic Plan and vision for the future. We are excited about what lays ahead for children and families at Alberton PS.

### **Site Improvement Plan (School and Preschool):**

An intentional and detailed Site Improvement Plan was constructed with staff, which focusses on reading improvement for each learner. We have a clear focus, strategies in place and support deployed to help grow the capacity of each staff member in their practice. The SIP (School) and PQIP (Preschool) can be accessed in full detail on the school's website.

### **School Financial Report:**

- Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss reports are available at the AGM and upon request.
- At end of year, SASIF and Investment was at \$623930.09 and Cash at Bank \$13271.56
- No financial audit in 2020 due to COVID. Finance Audit for 2019 and 2020 was conducted at the beginning of 2021.
- Department for Education grants have been accessed for various upgrades including, classroom refurbishments, ICT, sensory adjustments to classrooms and repairs, compliance upgrades in Nest. The site has also invested in replacement furniture where needed, resources and professional learning opportunities for staff.
- Audit conducted on Financial reporting and recommendations provided on how to report accurately to GC (change in wording to reflect new DfE process).



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### **Canteen Company Financial Report:**

- Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss reports are available at the AGM and upon request.
- At end of year, SASIF and Investment was at \$8603.74 and Cash at Bank \$1229.78
- Recommendations made regarding review of menu, mark up pricing, and stocktake procedures. These were all accepted by Canteen Committee and endorsed by Governing Council as minor operational adjustments.
- **Actions for 2022:** 2 meal deals per term, looking at Monday specials and closing 2 or 3 afternoons per week (second break) to remain financially viable.

### **OHSC Company Financial Report:**

- Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss reports are available at the AGM and upon request.
- At end of year, SASIF and Investment was at \$59150.91 and Cash at Bank \$39915.35
- Adjustments made to the follow up process for outstanding fees due to COVID. This supported families in a complex year.
- No financial audit in 2020 due to COVID. Finance Audit for 2019 and 2020 was conducted at the beginning of 2021. No findings from audit.
- Co-funded nature play upgrade for 2021 has been recommended by OHSC Committee. This is a co-funded project with the school and Port Adelaide Enfield Council.

### **Acknowledgements:**

We take this opportunity to acknowledge the following members of our school community who have completed their term on Governing Council. Dash Taylor Johnson, Zoe Gordon, Bec Lyons and Melissa Hanneker will conclude their time on the Alberton PS Governing Council and we acknowledge your wonderful support.

We acknowledge Ina Woodards (Canteen Manager), Alison Dick (OHSC Director), Angela Sortini-Maslen (Finance Manager), Natalie Clifford and Jo Statton (Staff Representatives) for their ongoing support of Governing Council within their roles.

We would like to thank the Alberton PS community for your participation and engagement in school life and ongoing support.