

### Welcome to our Newsletter

Friday 21st March 2025

#### Principal's Message

### Happy Harmony Day Everyone ©

#### **AGM & Governing Council News:**

Thank you for such a great turnout to the school's Annual General Meeting (AGM) as we welcomed in our 2025 Children's Parliament members. It was wonderful to see our students beaming with pride as they accepted their badges and certificates for 2025.

**Congratulations** to the following members of our school community who were elected to Governing Council for 2025. We have a great representation of parents who have children in a range of year levels across the site and expertise to offer. Some members are returning (2<sup>nd</sup> year of tenure), re-elected or are new members.

Sarina, Steve, Dan, elk, Amy, Anna, Heath & Bec (Staff Reps), Jaylene, Hannah, Angus, Matthew and Bek

We also welcome **Hannah**, **Matthew and Bek** for the first time onto Governing Council.

Welcome Aboard Everyone!!

Many thanks to **James**, **Damon and Kerrie** who completed their tenures on Governing Council and making significant contributions...you leave a great legacy and baton change over to our next group.

#### **2025 Office Bearing Positions:**

**Steve Halls** has been re-elected as Governing Council Chairperson, along with **Anna Simpson** as Deputy Chairperson. **Dan Nottle** (Finance) & **elk Kovaricek/Amy Duke** have been elected as Community Development Convenors and **Sarina** as OSHC Advisory Committee representatives. Thankyou for your commitment.

#### **School Tours:**

On Tuesday, our student leaders and I hosted our first school tour for 2025. It was well attended with over 20 families coming along. Our new leaders did an amazing first up job...thankyou Kristina, Oliver and Freya. © They received lovely feedback and some helpful tips from our visitors which is all part of our leadership learning.



#### **Staffing Update:**

I will be on leave from school from Week 9, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025 for the remainder of Term 1. I have a short holiday with the family, followed with carers leave as my wife is having a foot operation...so I am on 'mum/dad' duties for a few weeks. Briony Murdoch will be acting Principal during this time, along with having great support from Sam, Shannon, Kim, Dani and Erin as the admin team.

Congratulations to **Kim Bell** who has won our curriculum leadership role, whilst Shannon is on Maternity Leave from Term 2 onwards. **Sinead Saunders** will take on the teaching role in Teal Magpie during this time.

#### **Diary Dates**

**March** 

SAPSASA District Athletics Day Tues 25/03

Go Foundation Excursion Thurs 27/03

> School Photos Mon 31/03 Makeup day Thurs 03/03

> > <u>April</u>

Outdoor Cinema and Pizza Night Fri 04/04

> Last Day of School Casual Day Fri 11/04 2pm Dismissal

First Day Of Term 2 Mon 28/04

APS Dentist Week Mon 05/04 – Fri 09/05

SAPSASA Cross Country Tues 06/05

**Governing Council** 

Tues 15/05 6:00pm – 7:30pm

#### 2025 School Terms

TERM 1

28th Jan - 11th Apr

TERM 2

28th May - 4th Jul

TERM 3

21st Jul - 26th Sep

**TERM 4** 

13th Oct - 12th Dec





# LOVE OF READING



Students from year 5 and 6 have applied their learning in reading to help them in creating their POP-UP Market business. They have explored visual persuasives and have engaged in guided workshops to understand the structure and language features of these texts. This has helped transfer their knowledge into their writing and designing of their own business cards, logo, slogan, and poster to persuade customers to buy their unique product.













Students have shown their strong independent reading skills during morning reading time and have been rotating reading to an adult to focus on reading skills of fluency, comprehension, inferencing and decoding challenging words.

Once again, it has been wonderful to see our year 5 and 6 students embrace the Premier's Reading Challenge this year and read a wide variety of authors and fiction and non-fiction books.











As part of reading, we have focused on reading and doing a book study of 'The Wild Robot' as a class. This has been fantastic learning for us to unpack how the author uses adjectives to build a rich clear picture of the setting and characters for students to visualise, how they build suspense, and how the use of emotive language elicits feeling and engages the reader. Students have then used this learning to transfer into their own narrative writing.

















# Children's Parliament

The Children's Parliament of Alberton Primary School has a long and proud tradition of providing students with genuine voice and agency in their learning and education. When we empower students to express their ideas, become active participants in their learning and work collaboratively to achieve their goals, everyone benefits.

The 2025 Alberton Children's Parliament (CPAPS) was officially welcomed in at last week's AGM, and it was fantastic to see so many families in attendance! This year's Leadership Team consists of:

Kristina G- Prime Minister

**Oliver B - Deputy Prime Minister** 

Freya S - Proxy Deputy Prime Minister

At the AGM, the CPAPS Leaders announced and presented all of the Ministers with their 2025 Certificates, and then jointly welcomed all of the new Ministry members. This year's Ministers are:

Riley Q - Sports (Staff Advisor: Michael Gill)

Noel L and Alkira W - ATSI Nations (Staff Advisor: Jo Statton)

Mackenzie C - Diversity (Staff Advisor: Georgia Russell)

Jean B - Education (Staff Advisor: Shannon Quesnier)

Mykah K - Public Relations (Staff Advisor: Sam Anderson)
Kyla E - Community Affairs (Staff Advisor: Sam Anderson)

Jett R - Environments (Staff Advisor: Shannon Quesnier)

Many of the Ministries have already had their first meeting where the CPAPS members all sign a special Pledge:

I will uphold the rights and traditions of the school.

I will work with other Parliament members to:

- Maximise student participation in decision-making processes and positively contribute to our School and Community
- Represent student voice
- Act in the best interest of the students
- Be accountable to our school and its values

Seeing first-hand the levels of commitment, focus and enthusiasm from all of the Ministry members so far has been very impressive and we are looking forward to another great year of authentic voice and contributions from our students.





## NEWS FROM THE NEST!

#### Growing our minds and brains in the Nest!

In the Nest children are learning about how their brains work and how this is connected to the emotions they feel and actions they choose. Through the Grow Your Mind program the Nest children have been learning about the 'animals in our brain'.

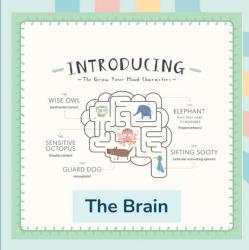
We are learning all about the animals and how we can grow them so we can make good decisions, remember things, be good friends, keep ourselves safe and focus on all the things we learn.

This term we have focused closely on the 'guard dog' and the 'wise owl'.

Our guard dog, the amygdala, has the special job of keeping us safe. It is responsible for our fight, freeze and flee response. The problem is, that the guard dog sometimes gets a bit confused and can get really big over small problems. During these times we might get really angry, or sad, or frustrated and need to help our guard dog to shrink. One way we can do this is by breathing deeply, and calming our bodies. We learnt different ways to breathe deeply and made an amygdala bottle to help us. When we swirl our amygdala bottles it's just like how our brains and bodies feel when our guard dog is really big. When we breathe deeply we slow our brains and bodies just like the glitter slows in our bottles. We are calm, our brains and bodies are still and our guard dogs are small. We can use our bottles at home to help us breathe deeply when we are at home.

Our wise owl, the Prefrontal Cortex, is responsible for making good decisions. One way we can grow our wise owl is by sticking with tricky things. We made origami wise owls, they were tricky to fold, but we all stuck with it and grew our wise owls.

Later this year we will learn about the sensitive octopus (insular cortex)-who helps us to be good friends, the elephant (hippocampus) - who helps us remember and the sifting sooty (reticular activating system)- who helps us focus.





#### **Community Promotions**

IT LOOKS LIKE WE WILL HAVE 6 TEAMS REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL THIS YEAR. THOSE TEAMS WILL RANGE FROM UNDER 6 THROUGH TO UNDER 11. SOME IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

THURSDAY MAY IST - SCHOOL SOCCER MEET N GREET ON THE OVAL AFTER SCHOOL. A GREAT CHANCE FOR PLAYERS TO MEET THEIR COACHES AND HAVE A SMALL KICK AROUND (THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL PRACTICE SO WILL PROBABLY GO UNTIL 3.45PM)

SATURDAY MAY 3RD - COACHES REGISTRATION MORNING (MORE INFORMATION WILL BE PASSED ON TO COACHES REGARDING THIS)

THURSDAY MAY 8TH - IST OFFICIAL PRACTICE ON THE OVAL (3.15

SATURDAY MAY 10TH - SOCCER SEASON STARTS

REGARDS.

MICHAEL GILL SPECIALIST PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER





#### OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY NIGHT TUESDAY 25 MARCH 2025 - 5.30 - 8.00PM

Showcasing our school, connecting with our community

Prospective and existing families and community members are invited to join us for a night of connection and discovery. Students and teachers will be showcasing learning in action throughout the night from a variety of learning areas.

A community BBQ will be held at 5.30pm with refreshments available and the Principal's address by Kirri Dimasi will commence at 6pm outside our Languages Building.

