

Athelstane Advocate

Athelstane Public School

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Term 1 - Week 6

Friday 8th March, 2024



National Young Leaders Day

On Monday this week our Student School Leaders were provided with an opportunity to attend the National Young Leaders Day with Mr Georgas. As current and future leaders they were able to listen to keynote speakers share their experiences of leadership and learning. More information is shared in today's newsletter. Congratulations to our School Leaders for being excellent representatives of our school.



Three Way Interviews – Students, Parents and Teachers

Over the course of the school year parents are provided opportunities to engage in conversations about their child's learning and goals they are working towards at school. The opportunity to meet for a three way conference is provided in Terms 1 and 3. In Terms 2 and 4 formal written student reports are shared with parents.

Next week our Term 1, Three Way Interviews are scheduled to occur. All of our parents are encouraged to meet with their child and teacher to learn about how school and home can work together to maximise outcomes for our students. Bookings can be made via the Sentral Parent Portal.

Zone Swimming Carnival

Last Friday our 16 representatives from Athelstane competed at the Zone Swimming Carnival and were excellent ambassadors in their respectful, responsible and successful conduct. Congratulations to all of the competitors and thank you to Mr Georgas for supporting our team.



NAPLAN – Years 3 and 5

This year the National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for students in Years 3 and 5 will be held in Term 1, commencing on 13 March. Student assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. NAPLAN assessments are conducted online; however, Year 3 students will complete the writing assessment on paper. More information on NAPLAN can be found at <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/for-parents-carers>

Positive Behaviour for Learning

This term our Positive Learning Team has an exciting update with amazing new signage being placed around the school. This new signage displays our school expectations for areas around the school in a clear, visible and prominent manner. This is the culmination of work of the Positive Learning Team and supports lessons in classrooms which teach our students about our school wide expectations and developing a consistent, shared language across all areas in the school environment. Thank you to our General Assistant Mr George for his work to secure the signs in appropriate areas around the school. Acknowledgement and thanks to the Positive Learning Team of staff who have supported this work and to Mrs O'Dowd as the Assistant Principal leading the team.

Mrs T. Black
Principal



P&C News

This term the P&C met and elected representatives to undertake executive positions.

Congratulations to the newly elected P&C executive;

- Sally Sharif – President
- Fatima Elzein – Vice President
- Bassma Girgis – Treasurer
- Zahra Matar - Secretary

Student Lunch and food containers from home

Every day we encourage and support our students to bring a healthy lunchbox to school. Classes have a crunch and sip time with a fruit/vegetable snack and drink of water.

Recently some students have been sent to school with their lunch and snacks packed in glass containers. **Parents are asked to please not pack glass containers or bottles for their children** as a safety measure. Glass containers are easily broken when dropped and are a real risk for students. We thank parents for your support in ensuring lunches and snacks are packed in plastic containers to keep everyone safe.

“Respect at Schools” Department of Education initiative

This term, you will notice new posters around the school that aim to help support a safe and respectful culture at our school.

These posters are part of a Department of Education initiative to remind everybody to treat our hard-working school staff with kindness and respect. Every school community around the state is very different. While most schools are respectful and harmonious, violence and unsafe behaviour in any form is not acceptable in schools. School staff and students have the right to learn and work in safe and respectful learning environments.

We value our partnerships with you to support our students to learn, grow, and belong. It is up to us – the school and the parent-body - to be good respectful role models to our students. Together, we can create a safe and harmonious environment for our students and staff.

Our school hopes you will support this initiative. What do you need to do? It is easy: Please treat our students and staff with kindness and respect, at all times. We are here to help you.

NSW Department of Education



Everyone deserves to feel safe at school



Please treat our staff and students with kindness and respect



Aggressive behaviour will **not be tolerated**



Together, we can create a safe and harmonious environment for our students and staff

education.nsw.gov.au



What's On



Term 1—2024

Monday 11th March – Friday 15th March: Three Way Interviews

Wednesday 13th March – Monday 25th March – Naplan Year 3 and 5 students

Tuesday 26th March—Managing Challenging Behaviour Parent Workshop 9:30am-11am

Wednesday 27th March – Harmony Day and Harmony Day Assembly

Wednesday 27th March – Year 6 Easter Showbag Fundraiser

Thursday 28th March – Easter Hat Parade

Friday 29th March – Public Holiday: Good Friday

Monday 1st April – Public Holiday: Easter Monday

Playground Supervision

Did you know there is no teacher supervision on the school playground until 8.40am each morning?

We have noticed that many children are arriving at school between 8.00-8.30am, which is too early.

If your child comes to school prior to 8.40am, please remind them that they should sit in Area 3.

If your children says that they want to go to school early so they can play..... There is no playing on the playground until the bell goes at 8.40am.

Three Way Interviews

Is your child in Year 1 -6? Have you booked an interview with the class teacher?

Book your interview by going to Sentral Parent App and selecting interviews. This will give you the available times for your child's teacher.

If there are no suitable times, please email the school or call the office and your child's teacher will contact you to organise a suitable time.

We look forward to seeing all parents and students at interviews next week.

During Week 9, Kindergarten interviews will be held. Information to be forwarded soon.

Naplan – Year 3 and 5

Next week, will see the start of the Naplan assessments for students in Years 3 and 5.

Please ensure your child has their headphones at school as they will be required during the assessments to support students.

Are You Worried About Your Child's Safety Online?

As a parent, are you concerned with your child's engagement with the online world. Read the five tips for keeping your kids safe when engaging with the online world.

Visit <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents> for information than can help support you as a parent.

5 Tips for Keeping Your Kids Safe Online

1. Start the chat

Get into the habit of talking about online safety as a family, so your child feels comfortable coming to you if they ever need help working out an issue. It's never too early to introduce good online habits such as respect, empathy, critical thinking, responsible behaviour and resilience. As your child grows older, eSafety's advice about hard to have conversations will help with some of the tricky topics.

2. Create a family technology agreement

Creating a Family Technology Agreement can help you and your kids decide together when and how digital technology will be used at home. As a family, brainstorm easy-to-follow rules and display them where everyone will see them. Your agreement could cover things like: time limits, apps your kids are allowed to use and online behaviour. Families with younger children can download a template to guide the conversation.

3. Set up parental controls

Parental controls let you monitor and limit what your child sees and does online. It's best to use them in combination with the other online safety strategies listed here. Taming the technology can help you understand your options. Grab a device and get started with our guides to setting up parental controls on devices and accounts or in social media, games and apps.

4. Choose games and other apps carefully

Think about the positives and negatives when your child asks to download a new game or other app. What are the age ratings?

5. Use digital technology together

Exploring or playing on devices or online with your child can be a positive experience that promotes learning and development. Ask questions, be curious and get involved.

School Uniform

At Athelstane, wearing our school uniform every day is a requirement. Wearing of our school uniform is an expectation as this supports unity and school spirit. We are excellent ambassadors for Athelstane when wearing our uniform within the community.

Girls Uniform options:

- *Checked dress (with grey tights)
- *Maroon shorts
- *Maroon pants
- *Blue polo shirt (short or long sleeve)
- *Maroon jumper or jacket
- *White socks
- *Black shoes
- *School hat
- *Girls head scarfs must be pale blue in colour

Boys Summer Uniform

- *Grey shorts
- *Blue polo shirt (short or long sleeve)
- *Maroon jumper or jacket
- *Grey socks
- *Black shoes
- *School hat

Sports Uniform

- *Blue sports polo shirt
- *Blue shorts or tights
- *White socks
- *Sport shoes

Please note: black tights **are not** part of our school uniform

Please mark all school clothing clearly with your child's name



SCHOOL HATS: In accordance with the School's Sun Policy, it is compulsory for students to wear a school hat throughout the year, NO-HAT-NO PLAY!! (Students must sit in the shade in the designated no hat areas).

From the Library



Thank you to the parents that have placed their order on this Issue of Book Club! There is still time to order if you haven't already ordered, this issue closes this Friday 10th March. Some of the most popular titles we've noticed this Issue include "Bad Bunny" and "Worst Week Ever!"

Remarkable Minds Workshop

Dear Parents,

We are excited to offer a FREE parent workshop on Tuesday 26th March at 9:30am at Athelstane Public School. The presentation by Remarkable Minds will support you with ideas to help manage challenging behaviours at home. Please see flyer attached. Looking forward to seeing many of you there.

Mathletics

This year, your child will be using Mathletics as part of their Mathematics learning. Mathletics is a targeted, rewarding and captivating online learning resource, which is aligned to the NSW Mathematics curriculum. Mathletics reinforces the learning that is taking place in the classroom. Encourage your child to achieve a weekly target of 1000 points to earn a certificate, building through bronze, silver and gold across the school year.

Get to know Mathletics with your child.

Attendance Matters @APS

Dear Parents,

Did you know that you are **required to sign your child into the office** if they arrive late to school, even if it's only by a couple of minutes?

This is Department of Education policy and has an impact on our roll marking.

When students arrive late to school they miss important classroom procedures and announcements that set them up for a successful day of learning. When they're late they also miss out on positive socialisation time with their classmates and teacher at the beginning of each day.

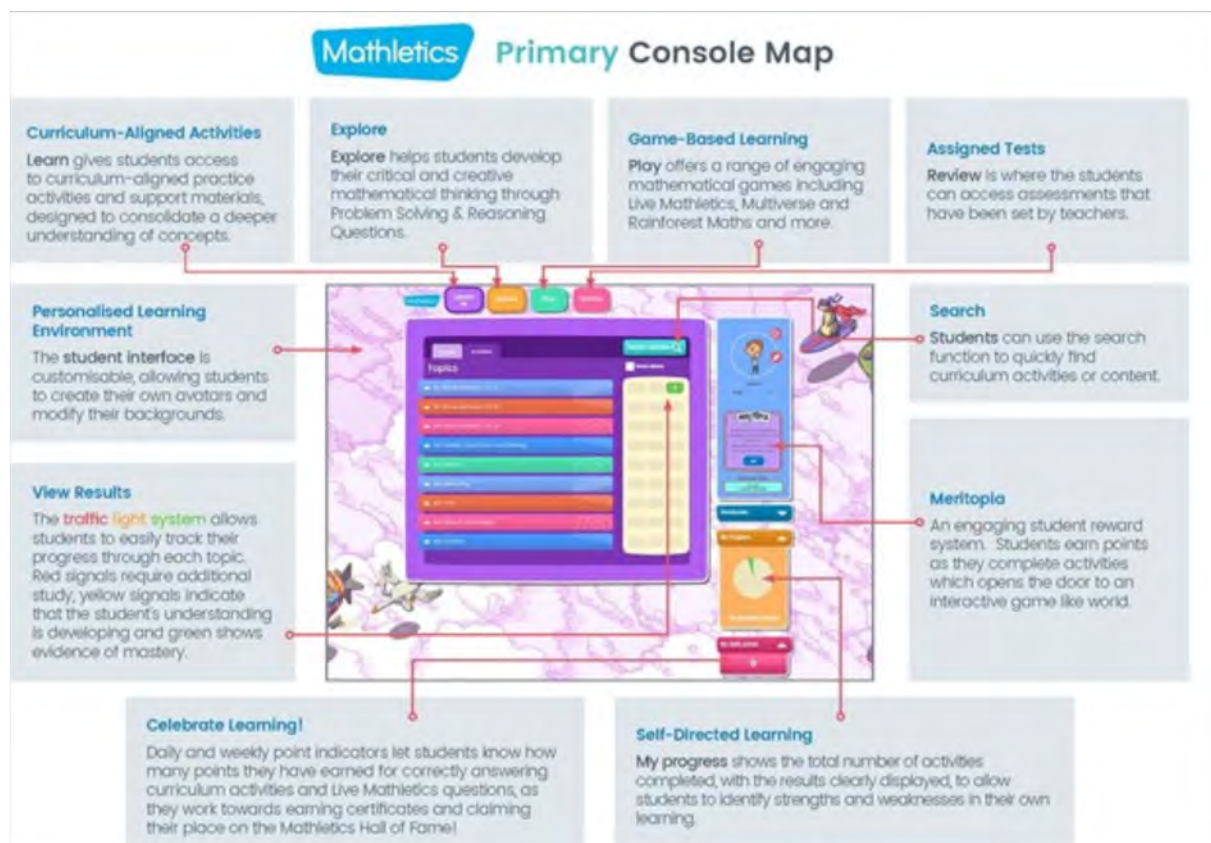
A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much but if your child misses just 5 minutes per day they will miss 3 days of learning each year.

Let's work together to ensure all students are on time to school each day. We are here to help support.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS @APS

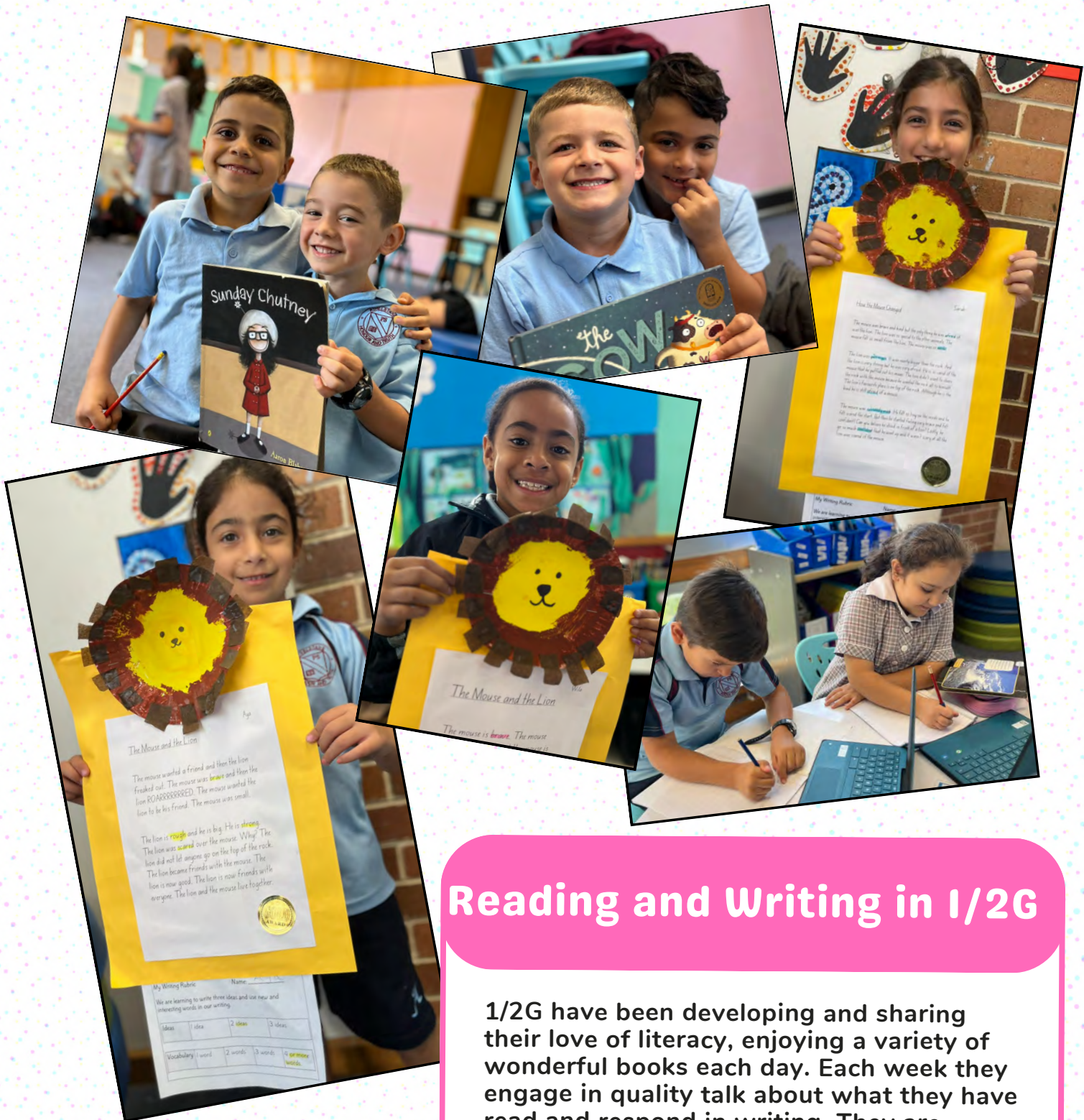
Mrs Smithett

Learning and Support Teacher



We love learning in 1/2G

TERM 1



Reading and Writing in 1/2G

1/2G have been developing and sharing their love of literacy, enjoying a variety of wonderful books each day. Each week they engage in quality talk about what they have read and respond in writing. They are learning to use self and peer assessment to provide feedback and set learning goals to move their learning forward and improve!



Some of our favourite books:



WELCOME TO 3DW

Where we grow every day...

We have had the most wonderful start to our year in 3DW! We are now six weeks into Term 1 and students are adjusting amazingly to life in Stage 2. 3DW have been working hard on reading and writing skills linked to the text Fantastic Mr. Fox and have been exploring lots of Mathematical concepts through engaging hands on activities. Year 3 have also been exploring how to be a safe and respectful digital citizen in an online world and understanding our school expectations. Stage 2 are now beginning Level 2 STEM lessons with Mr. V in the Library and are excited to learn all about how food is produced and makes it into our homes. We have a very exciting year ahead!





NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY CONFERENCE 2024



STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Last Monday, our Student Leadership Team ventured off by train, accompanied by Mr Georgas, to the National Young Leaders Day Conference at the International Convention Centre in Darling Harbour. We listened and learned from some excellent keynote speakers, from the amazing Australian Memory Champion Anastasia Woolmer and the hilarious best selling children's author Matt Cosgrove, to the inspiring Australian Ninja Warrior Bryson Klein. We learned about what true leadership is and how it can be applied in our school as young leaders. It was a great day of learning had by all.

Zone Swimming Carnival 2024



Last Friday, Athelstane sent our team of amazing swimmers to the Zone Swimming Carnival at Sans Souci Leisure Centre. It was the largest team our school has ever sent to the Zone Carnival, which is a testament to the progress made by our students over the recent years. It was a great experience for our students to represent our school and compete against students from different schools. Special shoutout for Anusha from 6W, who received our best result of the day of 5th in the 11 Year Old Girls Breaststroke overall. Well done to our students who participated on the day.



Every Day Matters

Make sure your child doesn't miss out on the important things like:

Learning



Strengthening friendships



Emotional development



When it comes to attending school, every day matters.

Scan the QR code to learn more



Managing Challenging Behaviour Workshop

- Athelstane Public School
- Tuesday 26 March 9:30-11am
- Morning tea provided
- Cost: complimentary

Hosted by Remarkable Minds Psychology - Professionals in child development and positive parenting

Remarkable Minds is an award-winning psychology practice offering preschool and school workshops on Behaviour Management and Positive Behaviour Support. We come to your centre and offer tailored training to suit parents, staff and educators.

We help with:

- Establish daily routines (e.g. getting ready for school in the morning)
- Set up home and classroom environment for success
- Positive behaviour support
- Emotional regulation and impulse control
- Initiate and encourage cooperation
- How to reduce challenging behaviour



RemarkableMinds
PSYCHOLOGY

