

# Athelstane Advocate

Athelstane Public School

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Term 4 - Week 7

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

## *Principal's Message*

Term 4 is an exciting term with some wonderful events and learning for all our Athelstane students. We are working towards ensuring the end of the year is a healthy, safe one for all. Many thanks to parents and our community members who continue to support all our students and staff in maintaining protocols about limiting access to school sites. Acknowledging how difficult this is for everyone, it is so vital we continue to act responsibly. We are nearly there!

End of year events are fast approaching and teachers are planning for what this looks like in our current context. Due to COVID-19 and our adjusted way of currently operating in schools we will be maintaining the excellent work of the school community and abiding to current health advice until the end of the term. This will mean that we will be sharing some of our events such as presentation assemblies and certificates of learning via avenues such as ClassDojo and the school website. These assemblies will be held in stage groups in order to continue to follow guidelines. Further information will also be coming home shortly about end of year "Fun Days" which each stage will be holding to celebrate some incredible learning that has occurred at home and at school this year. This year has been an extremely challenging year and we want to celebrate in a COVID-19 safe manner. 2020 has been an incredible effort from students, teachers and parents alike – well done everyone!

I would also like to extend my thanks to the school community for a warm welcome this week as the announcement was made that from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November I will commence as the permanent principal of Athelstane Public School. It is a great honour to be able to join the school in this capacity and I am very much looking forward to leading an incredible school of students and working alongside teachers, parents and the wider community to continue the excellent work of the school. I am also looking forward to the opportunity to meet the whole community moving into the new school year in 2021 and beyond.

## **Public Speaking Competition – Congratulations!**

Kadeeja Kdough represented Athelstane Public School at the Beverly Hills Network Public Speaking Competition via zoom last month. She was chosen to represent our school after winning her Stage competition. She delivered two speeches at the event, a prepared and an impromptu. Her prepared speech was 'Asylum Seekers' and her impromptu speech was 'Surprises'.

We want to congratulate Kadeeja on her outstanding effort and the quality of her speeches. We are very proud of her. Well done Kadeeja!



## Kindergarten Orientation

Last week was our third Kindergarten Orientation session here at school. We were very lucky to be able to have our new Kindergarten 2021 students visit us onsite. All the students and the parents did a fantastic job of being supportive of our operations and ensuring we all stayed safe and healthy – thank you!

We are very excited to have our new students join us in 2021. Thank you to Mrs Price and the Kindergarten teachers, Ms White and Mrs Harris for making the students welcome and ensuring the mornings were such a success.

After our orientation sessions we had some very positive feedback from parents that I would like to share;

*The staff were approachable, knowledgeable and dedicated to ensuring the complete success of the transition program; particularly during the misfortunate period of dealing with a global pandemic.*

*Further, the students at the gate were most welcoming and were a wonderful indication of the quality of education and student management at Athelstane Public School.*

*Thank you for an amazing three days!*

## Stage 3 camp – Great Aussie Bush Camp

Last week our Stage 3 students had the opportunity to participate in some extra exciting learning at the Great Aussie Bush Camp. The feedback from the camp and staff who led activities was what an amazing group of students Athelstane girls and boys are! It was very pleasing to hear how all the students demonstrated respectful, safe behaviour and were excellent representatives of our school. Well done Stage 3! Over the three days at camp students had the opportunity to participate in some incredible fun from mud runs, canoeing, swimming, rock climbing, the power fan and a great campfire at night. Thank you to Mrs Little who organised the camp and made it a reality this year! Thank you also to the teachers who supported Stage 3 and

joined in the fun. Thank you Miss Irani, Mrs Smithett and Mr Khamis.





## Year 3 Transition Sessions

At Athelstane PS our aim is to support every student in their transition to school whether that is on entry to Kindergarten, transition to the next year or transition to high school. To assist students transitioning to Year 3 in 2021 there will be visits from Arncliffe West PS students who will be joining us in Year 3 next year. They will be visiting with their teachers for a session each visit and some time on the playground.

The dates for Year 3 transition are Wednesday 25 November and Wednesday 2 December this term. Our first transition session was this week and it was wonderful to meet the students and for them to have the chance to start to make some new friends for next year. We are looking forward to their second visit next week



## Uniform Shop

Late last term, the P & C commenced the operating of the school uniform shop. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, the shop has not been able to operate as parents and community have been unable to visit the school grounds. Recently the guidelines have been updated and for a short period of 10 mins for the purpose of visiting a uniform shop a limited number of parents are able to visit, so long as physical distancing is adhered to. Further information about the operating of the uniform shop will be shared soon. Parents that would like to place orders are still able to do so by using envelopes with payment via the front office. Stay tuned!

Mrs Black  
Acting Principal



# What's On

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> December**

**Student Leader Candidate speeches**

**Year 6 Showbag Sale - \$8**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

**Student Leader Candidate speeches**

**Year 7 2021 Orientation Day at High Schools**

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

**Year 3 Transition Visit from Arncliffe West Infants School**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

**Year 6 Showbag Sale - \$8**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

**Presentation Day & Certificates of Learning Assemblies**

**Announcement of Student Leaders 2021**

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

**Stage 2 Fun Day**

**Support Unit Fun Day**

**Year 6 Farewell**

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

**Stage 1 Fun Day**

**Stage 2 Fun Day**

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

**Last Day of Term 4 for Students**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

**Last Day of Term 4 for Teachers**



## Principal's Award

Mrs Black continues to present students with the Principal's Award each week to students that are displaying the values of our school:

\*Being Respectful

\*Being Responsible

\*Being Successful

Students continue to work hard to achieve their learning goals.


## Behaviour Awards

Bronze, Silver and Gold awards are presented to students who have exhibited exemplary behaviour. Students earn ACES towards achieving one of these awards for consistent behaviour that follows the class and school rules.

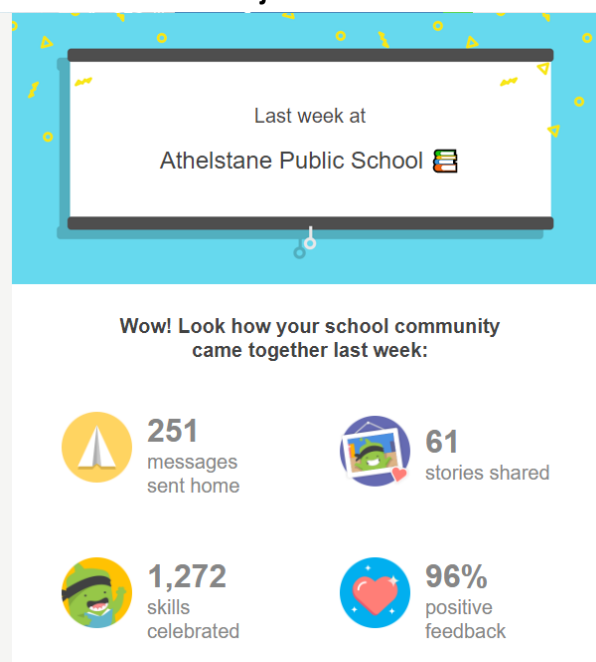
## Silver Award Recipients



2YS	Eve E
	Zahraa K
	Amirlan E
	Abbas R
	Ali K
3M	Dulguun Z
	Ali E
3/4DW	Gadeer N
	Christian O
	Idris Z
4G	Eny R
	Muhamad F
	Hussein M
	Zahraa A
	Zara E

<b>6CD</b>	Ujin G Sakina H
<b>Gold Award Recipients</b>	
	
<b>KH</b>	Mustapha C Zaynab H Youssef K Maryam S
<b>KW</b>	Abbas M Husayn N Ali N Hassan A
<b>K/1M</b>	Ali H
<b>1H</b>	Zahra A Georgia G Hassan K Mira A Ayoub A Mohammed K Bilal G Hussein C
<b>1P</b>	Hassan E Zahra G Mohammad D Lara K Hussayn J Sereen A Anar T
<b>2YS</b>	Maryam A Maya D Aydin F Batoul C Sawsan S
<b>3I</b>	Garid M Hassan E Anand T Zahraa H Namuun G Tamir T

<b>3M</b>	Mohammad H Rayan N Fatimah S
<b>3-6D</b>	Aleksander V
<b>3/4DW</b>	Mackenzie L Elaaf E Serine E Mohammed K Ali N
<b>4K</b>	Uchral G Nomin G Amy B Marwa M Tenuun B
<b>4G</b>	Layla G Zoara A Lachlan M Jalinyba W Anand M
<b>5B</b>	Khodor S Gabriella K
<b>5I</b>	Jawad H
<b>6CD</b>	Mahdi B
<b>6L</b>	Roukaya H Rayaan R Manlai S

**Last week on ClassDojo.....**



### Presentation Day & Certificates of Learning Assemblies

At Athelstane Public School, we are very proud of everything that we have achieved this year, despite the challenges of 2020. Our teachers, have worked hard to make our school an engaging and effective learning environment for our students. This has allowed students to be the best learners they can be. This year we will acknowledge the successes of our students on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December. We will be conducting three separate assemblies: Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3. Just like you, we are disappointed that parents cannot join us for these celebrations of learning, but on that day we will share photographs of the award recipients on ClassDojo.

This year, we will be acknowledging:

- \*Academic Achievement
- \*Most Improved
- \*Achievement or Improvement in Literacy
- \*Certificates of Learning recognising an achievement in learning of every student
- \*Year 6 Dux Awards
- \*Citizenship Award
- \*Announcement of Student Leader 2021
- \*Gold Medal Recipients
- \*Community Language Awards
- \*New Arrivals Program Awards

We look forward to celebrating the successes of our students.



### Student Leadership Candidates

Congratulations to all the Year 5 candidates who nominated to stand for leadership positions for 2021. As part of the process, students reflected on their leadership skills in order to nominate themselves. They enthusiastically presented their nomination speeches to their Year 5 peers, sharing the qualities that they possess that would make them suitable for the position of school leader for 2021. On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November and Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December, all candidates will present their speeches about their suitability to the position of school leader and what capabilities and qualities they possess. The voting will be extremely difficult as all candidates would undoubtedly make worthy leaders. We wish them all luck and look forward to the announcement of School Captains, Vice-Captains and Prefects at presentation assembly on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December.

### Semester 2 Reports

Over the last month, teachers have been busy reflecting on the learning that has taken place in their classroom. They have assessed the strengths and areas of development of each student and used this information to write reports. The Semester 2 report provides valuable information on the skills your children have achieved and their future learning goals.

It reports on all Key Learning Areas:

- English
  - Mathematics
  - Geography
  - Creative and Practical Arts
  - Science and Technology
  - Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
- It also provides information on learning as part of our Community Languages program of Arabic.

Once finalised, reports will be sent home towards the end of term.



**Stage 3  
Showbag  
Sale**

**\$8 each**

**Sold during Week 8 -  
Monday and Thursday  
at lunchtime**










### Staff Development Day Changes and Term Dates for 2021

The NSW Department of Education have recently announced changes to the Staff Development Days (pupil free days) that teachers will engage in during 2021.

#### Term 1

Wednesday 27 January – Staff Development Day

Thursday 28 January – Staff Development Day

Friday 29 January- Students Year 1 – 6 commence

Wednesday 3 February – Students in Kindergarten commence

Term 1 will end on Thursday 1 April.

#### Term 2

Monday 19 April 2021 – Staff Development Day

Tuesday 20 April 2021 Students K- 6 commence

Friday 25 June 2021 - Last day of Term 2

#### Term 3

Monday 12 July 2021- Staff Development Day

Tuesday 13 July 2021-Students K-6 commence

Friday 17 September 2021 -Last day of Term 3

#### Term 4

Tuesday 5 October 2021 – Teachers and students commence

Thursday 16 December 2021 -Last day of Term 4

Friday 17 December 2021 -Staff Development Day

### Is Your Child Leaving Athelstane in 2021?

If your child is not returning to Athelstane in 2021 and you have not as yet informed the school, we would appreciate you letting us know.

### Indication of School Fees and Contributions 2021

Towards the end of the term, we will endeavour to send home a letter that will give you an indication of fees and contributions for next year.

In this way, parents can budget and plan.

This year, due to COVID, we did not ask parents to pay for contributions or fees. The school paid for students to have access to products such as Mathletics and Reading Eggs.

### Enrolling at Athelstane for 2021

If you are yet to enrol your child or know someone who is planning to enrol their child at our school, please ask them to contact the office on 9567 3550

