

# Athelstane Advocate

Athelstane Public School

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Term 3 - Week 5

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,



As the Acting Principal of Athelstane Public School, joining the school community this week, it has been an exciting week with lots of new learning. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, my name is Mrs Black. I have thoroughly enjoyed talking, listening and seeing the incredible work of students and staff over the week. Visiting classrooms this week has been a wonderful introduction and an excellent chance to see learning in action. This week I was also able to join Year 5 with their teachers in visiting Arncliffe West for some Buddy Reading on Monday which was a delightful event. Some great books were shared and enjoyed by all.



The welcome from the school community has been warm and genuine for which I would like to express my thanks. I look forward to continuing the excellent work of the school.

## Updated COVID-19 advice from the Department of Education

The Department of Education provided updated advice this week to ensure schools continue to be safe and operate in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPCC) and NSW Health advice .

This advice is to maintain current operational practices in relation to drop off and dismissal procedures and that parents/carers and other non-essential visitors not being allowed on the school site. We acknowledge this is very challenging but I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank parents and carers for adhering to these processes and maintaining physical distancing when collecting and dropping off students daily. Together we do need to ensure we continue to follow these protocols to prioritise the safety of all of our students and staff.

Further advice was in relation to activities schools are able to continue. Activities such as incursions

and delivery of curriculum, which includes our Fit Futures gymnastics program, can continue. Advice around activities in schools that are to remain on hold for the remainder of Term 3 include;

- Kindergarten orientation
- School camps
- Excursions
- Parent and carer attendance at assemblies and other school events
- School based activities that involve large gatherings of adults and parent /carer volunteers supporting in classrooms
- Year 7 orientation delayed until Term 4

Additional safety measures are being put in place to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools for the remainder of Term 3:

- students should stay within their relevant cohort group (i.e. class, year group, or stage) for all learning activities within their school.
- Students are not to attend other campuses for the remainder of Term 3.

These updated safety measures mean that our peer support program, Student Representative Council (SRC) and Buddy Reading with Year 5 will be put on hold for this term.

All of our students and families are asked to support in maintaining good hygiene measures by;

- Staying at home when unwell
- Washing hands regularly and thoroughly
- Maintaining respiratory hygiene – cover coughs or sneezes by coughing into your elbow or a tissue and disposing of tissues in the bin directly after use

NSW Health have requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID-19 clinics.

**Students and staff with flu-like symptoms will need to provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result before being permitted to return to school.**

We again thank our parents and carers for all of your support in staying safe and healthy during this challenging time.

### **Farewell Mr Lindsay**

On Friday 14th August the Athelstone Public School community said farewell to Mr Lindsay. Mr Lindsay has worked tirelessly over his 7 years at Athelstone and will be sadly missed by all. We wish him the very best in his new endeavours in being the foundation principal of Catherine Fields Public School. Goodbye and good luck Mr Lindsay!

### **Fit Futures Gymnastics Program**

Last week our Gymnastics program commenced on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for students. The students have been enjoying the many activities involved from jumping, rolling, hopping and much much more! This program is related to the curriculum area of Personal Development, Health and Physical Education and will continue until week 9 this term.





### Year 1 Garden – Thanks Mr George

This term Year 1 have been learning about living things and how plants grow as part of their Science unit and have started a garden. Students with the help of their teachers have planted strawberries, beans and carrots.

Mr George helped to show the Year 1 girls and boys how to plant and also helped with a scarecrow to keep birds away and protect the plants growing in our garden. Thanks Mr George!

Mrs Black  
Acting Principal



## What's On



**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August**

**Book Fair**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August**

**Step Up Program commences**

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August**

**Book Week Dress-up Day & Stage Buddy Reading**

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

**Book Week Author Visit : Oliver Phommavanh**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

**Presentation of Gold Awards**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September**

**Last day of Term 3**





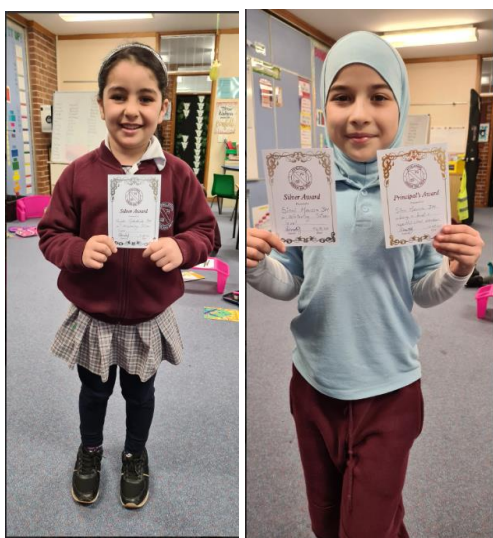
### Principal's Award

Although we have been unable to come together as a school for our Monday morning assemblies, we continue to award students with the Principal's Award when they displayed the values of our school:

- \*Being Respectful
- \*Being Responsible
- \*Being Successful

Students continue to work hard to achieve their learning goals.

Mrs Black will visit classrooms on Wednesdays to present awards to students.



### Behaviour Awards

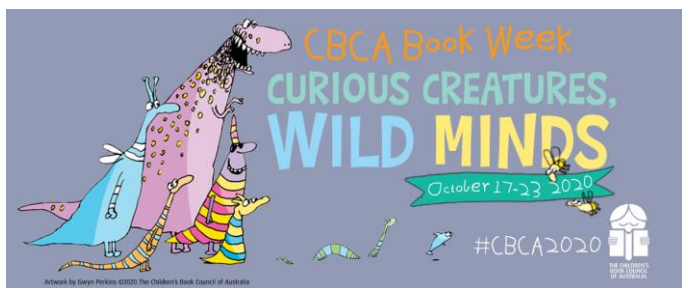
Bronze, Silver and Gold awards are presented to students who have exhibited exemplary behaviour. Students earn ACES towards achieving one of these awards for consistent behaviour that follows the class and school rules.

#### Silver Award Recipients

KH	Khalil A
	Ayana A
	Lubna C
	Mahdi E
	Yesui K
	Adam T
	Hussein Z
	Mustapha C
KW	Zayne A
	Sienna C
	Kadijah F
	Madina G
	Ahmad M
	Zahraa N
	Ali N
	Maral O
	Hassan A
	Mohamad J
K/1M	Lewis F
	Alvin R
1H	Hassan K
	Hussein C
	Mohammed K
	Mira A
	Zahra A
1P	Georgia G
	Bilal K
	Ramesh N
	Mohammad D
	Abbas F
	Hussayn J
2-4A	Hassan E
	Zaya A
	Isa I
	Adam L
	Mehar M
	Ryan N
	Muhammad U

<b>3I</b>	Ali A Mohammed F
<b>3M</b>	Jade E Roukaya F Sinai M Era U Ayah D Hassan B Kitana E
<b>3/4DW</b>	Batoul S Mackenzie L Mohammed L Serine E Elaaf E Abbas B Ayah D Ali A Laila K Tom Jake O Ali N
<b>3-6D</b>	Batoul C Jesse I
<b>4K</b>	Ethan H Laila E
<b>4G</b>	Zaynab K Temuulen B Jalinyba W
<b>5B</b>	Mariam A Fatima A Sondor E Mousa S Khos Erdene E Hussayn K Rana M Ayah S Zeinab E Layal F Mohammed G Manessa H Gabriella K Itgel O Khodor S
<b>5I</b>	Jaafar E Mourtatha K Batoul M Zaynab M

	Ayaa H Ayah F Tommy C Yalguun B Emily B Temuulel B Angela L Mariam M Fatima S Xavier S Ali S
<b>6CD</b>	Joelle A Mahdi B
<b>Gold Award Recipients</b>	
<b>KH</b>	Sienna S Zahraa E
<b>KW</b>	Oliver M Hazel G Rayhanna F Rayan H
<b>3I</b>	Soukayna C Zahraa Z Aya A Mila M Radifa M Micah G
<b>3M</b>	Jacobi L Chingun S
<b>3/4DW</b>	Zahraa E Iveel T Nour M
<b>5I</b>	Celeste E Zahraa T
<b>6CD</b>	Kadeeja K Nour F Zeinab M
<b>6L</b>	Maya L Nandin O Mimi F Egshiglen B Younes C



## Book Week

Book Week this year will take place during the week beginning Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020. Our Book Week theme is “Curious Creatures, Wild Minds” and we are busy planning lots of activities that will help to encourage your children to continue to have a love of books and reading:

### Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> August to Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> August – Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school! What better way to promote reading to our students than by supporting this important literary event. Your support is a key part of helping us to raise funds for our school to obtain new books and resources for our library.

Book Fair will be open to students during their usual library time and they will be asked to complete a wish list of the books they are interested in purchasing. Wish lists will then be sent home and parents/carers can place an order via the Book Club LOOP ordering system. To register for LOOP please visit this link: <https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/>

### Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 – Book Character Day

*Students and teachers will come to school dressed as their favourite book character and we encourage students to bring the book their character is from to school on the day. We love to see our students creativity and imagination at play on this special occasion and we will be sharing lots of photos and videos with parents and carers via Seesaw.*

### Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Author Visit: Oliver Phommavanh

Permission notes for this event went home on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> August. Please ensure that your child’s permission note and fees are paid promptly to the office by Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> August.

### Book Week Book Cover Competition – Closes Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September

Our Book Week competition this year is calling upon your children’s ideas in designing a book cover for a new children’s book titled “Curious Creatures, Wild Minds”. Entry forms went home with students last Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> August, and we would love to see lots of amazing book covers coming back to classroom teachers. Please ensure that children’s name and class are filled in on their entry form.

Students have until Wednesday, 2nd September to hand in their sheet and winners will be announced on Thursday, 3rd September.

We thank you for your continued support in this area of your children’s learning.

### **Is Your Child Starting Kindergarten in 2021?**

If you have a child who is starting Kindergarten next year, now is the time to enrol them.

Do you have family or friends who would like to enrol their child for Kindergarten 2021?

Let them know the time is now!  
Places are filling fast.

Contact the school office on 9567 3550 as soon as possible.

To download and complete the enrolment form, go to: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/media/documents/enrol-k12.pdf>





### National Tree Day

National Tree Day is Australia's largest community tree planting and nature protection event where Australians are asked to help plant one million new native trees and shrubs across the country.

National Tree Day is a call to action for all Australians to put their hands in the earth and give back to their community.

This year, COVID did not stop us from participating with Tree Day. We had our environmental warriors lead by Mrs Smithett and Mrs Devin plant trees in Area 3.



### Premier's Sporting Challenge

Every class at Athelstane PS is participating in the Premier's Sporting Challenge.

What is it? It is a 10 week challenge where students (and teachers) track their physical activity in an effort to become more active. Students will receive a certificate for their participation later in the year.

### Morning and Afternoon Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures

As school returns, we will continue with the procedures that were in place last term. Procedures for pick up and drop off of students will remain the same.

In the morning, students should arrive from 8.40am and will head straight to their classroom.

In the afternoon, it is important that your children know whether they are being picked up or walking.

If you are picking up your children, arrangements are as

follows:

Support Unit 2.45pm Wollongong Rd Gate

A-E 2.50pm Hall Gate

F-J 2.50pm Office Gate

K-O 3.00pm Hall Gate

P-Z 3.00pm Office Gate

All children who are walking home, are dismissed at 3.00pm and can leave from any gate.

Thank you to the overwhelming majority of parents who always observe the parking restrictions at our school. Unfortunately, we still have a small number of drivers who do not observe the road rules and risk receiving heavy fines and demerit points, but more importantly put our students at risk.

The speed limit surrounding our school in the morning and afternoon is 40 km. The safety of our students is paramount, so please observe the road rules to ensure that drop offs and pick ups are safe for all.

Please do not do a U-turn or three-point turn over double lines. This attracts a fine and also a loss of points.

On a number of occasions, drivers have received fines by mail. Parking officers visit our school often. If you do the right thing then you have nothing to worry about when it comes to the parking officers.

**The safety of our students is our priority!** Please observe all parking restrictions so our school can operate safely.



Note: Parking Officers have been patrolling our school both before school and after school.

You may or may not see them but they are there, taking photographs and you will receive a fine in the post.

### Mathletics Certificates

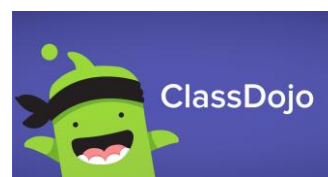
Mathletics is used by classroom teachers to reinforce the learning that is taking place in the classroom and for children to revise at home.

Children who engage with activities in Mathletics earn points which can result in a certificate.

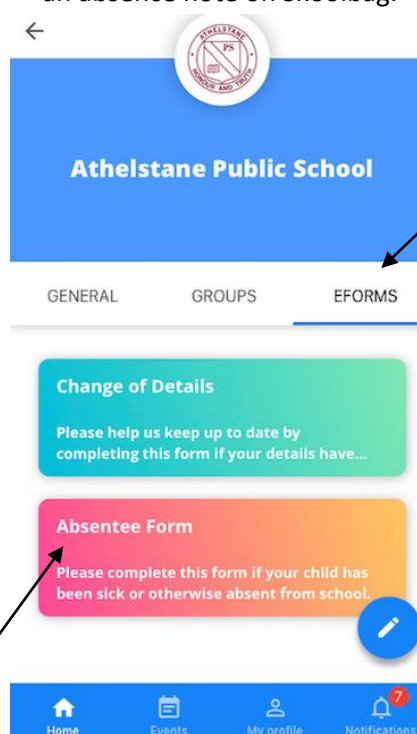
So what you see below is how many children have earned 1000 points in a week and been awarded a certificate that you can ask your child to show you when they log onto Mathletics. All certificates are stored in their Mathletics account.

<b>KH</b>	43
<b>KW</b>	22
<b>K1M</b>	1
<b>1H</b>	49
<b>1P</b>	36
<b>2YS</b>	64
<b>2-4A</b>	6
<b>3I</b>	58
<b>3M</b>	89
<b>3-6D</b>	25
<b>3/4DW</b>	23
<b>4G</b>	29
<b>4K</b>	54
<b>5B</b>	74
<b>5I</b>	147
<b>6CD</b>	127
<b>6L</b>	88

### How can you stay connected with what is happening at Athelstane?



Don't forget, if your child is absent, you can complete an absence note on Skoolbag.





# COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

## Who to call



### Questions and support

- Call **1800 020 080** (24/7) for health questions or to check symptoms.
- Call **13 77 88** (24/7) for non-health related questions.
- Call **1800 512 348** (24/7) for mental wellbeing support
- Visit [www.healthdirect.gov.au](http://www.healthdirect.gov.au) to check symptoms.
- Visit [www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19](http://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19) for all other COVID-19 related information

### Triple Zero

**Save Triple Zero (000)** for emergencies such as difficulty breathing or shortness of breath at rest.

### Interpreter service

For free help in your language call **13 14 50**.

### If you have symptoms



Fever



Cough



Sore throat



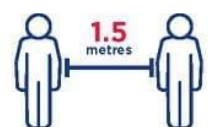
Shortness of breath

- **Self-isolate first.** Call your GP or visit a public COVID-19 clinic: [www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19](http://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19)
- Travel in your own car or a private car driven by a family member or an existing close contact. **Do not travel by public transport, taxi or ride-share service.**
- **Wear a surgical mask.** If unavailable, ask for one immediately when you arrive.

**Protect yourself and others.**



**Practise good hygiene**



**Practise physical distancing**



**Stay home if you can**

