

Athelstane Advocate

Athelstane Public School

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Term 3 - Week 2

Friday 3rd August 2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome Back To Term Three

Principal's Message



Playground Upgrade Underway



I am pleased to advise the school community that the first stage of our playground upgrade is nearing completion. The area in and around the fixed playground equipment in Area One has received a much need renovation and will increase the space available for our students to play. The design of our new playground space was created by our SRC members in consultation with an urban design architect. The next stage of the works will look to increase the play area in Area Two, alongside the support unit classrooms, through the creation of creative play space. We look forward to stage one being completed early next week and the commencement of stage two in the very near future. Stay tuned for more updates.

Spelling and Public Speaking Skills Take Centre Stage



Over the past few weeks our students have been refining their spelling and public speaking skills in preparation for preliminary round class based competitions in the Premier's Spelling Bee and Sydney School's Public Speaking Competition. Finalists from each class will have the opportunity to put their skills to the test in stage competitions with the winner to go on

and represent Athelstane Public School in the Regional Finals later this term. Our school has had a strong tradition of outstanding results in both of these competitions. The Stage finals of The Premier's Spelling Bee will feature as part of our Education Week Open Day Programme on Wednesday 8th August. We hope to see many parents come and be part of this event with us.

A Tree-mendous Day

Last Friday, 27th July was National School's Tree Day and the students of Athelstane Public School embraced the opportunity with the creation of a new garden. The garden, which was designed by Mrs Smithett and the Green Team, features an array of beautiful plants, including some stunning magnolia trees and Japanese maples all of which were kindly donated by Westconnex and Bayside Council. Our students also had the opportunity to hear from two guest speakers about the important role trees and bees play in our environment and then had the opportunity to get down and dirty planting the trees. This task was excitedly embraced by our students. Take a look at our picture gallery in this week's Schoolyard Snapshot. A special acknowledgement to Mrs Smithett and Miss Beukers for their co-ordination of the fantastic initiative.



Final Thought

Trees are poems the Earth writes upon the sky.
Mr Lindsay
Principal



What's On

Dates For Your Diary

Wednesday 8th August

Education Week Open Day
Spelling Bee Finals
Parent Workshop

Thursday 9th August

121 Numeracy Program begins

Friday 10th August

Peer Support Program begins

Wednesday 15th August

Athletics Carnival

Friday 17th August

Winter PSSA ends

Wednesday 22nd August

Book Week – Book Parade

Monday 27th August

Gold Award Assembly

Wednesday 29th August

Matt Cosgrove Author Visit

Friday 31st August

P&C Meeting

Friday 7th September

Summer PSSA begins

Assembly Awards

The following students have been consistently displaying the values of our school.

They are to be commended for their effort.

KDW	Ruqayya S
K-2M	Isa I
1L	Tamir T
1H	Ameer B
2I	Saikhanbileg B
2M	Hussein M
2-3A	Jesse I
3-5K	Ginger H
3K	Jawad H
3W	Mohammed E
3-6D	Jade P
4BP	Abdullah F
5/6L	Karmel A
6CS	Batoule K

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.

Bronze

KDW	Jaybe I Maryam A
2M	Layla G Lana J
2-3A	Maria C Jesse I Declan L Kodi S Paul I Dylan C Shertam

	Muhammad U
3W	Ayah S Jenny B Shine E Youssef I Temka A Hugo C
4BP	Zainab A Zainab M Zainab N Zainab I Joelle A Yasmina H Aida M Fatima M Aimen T Hussein M Telmuun Khuslen Alexander W Rhianna K Asad C Radwan A Mariam S Mariam E
6CS	Amar F Fatima R Ihsan A Abbas Kd Abbas Kh Hadi H Bilal H Huda B Hassan Z Zahra S Zeinab S Mohamed M Zahraa Sa Aaminah E
Silver	
2I	Marwa M Leen F Iveel T Undrakh G
2M	Zaynab K Gunjidmaa B Layla G Jasmine K

3W	Celeste E Azjargal B Khodor S
5/6L	Hassan H Zeinab E Egshiglen E
6CS	Naranzaya B Sobhie C Malak E Soukayna H Misheel Z Ihsan A Ali F Anand M

Parent Teacher Interviews and Half Yearly Reports

Thank you to the parents who attended parent teacher interviews. The feedback from parents was that it was valuable to sit and talk with the class teacher about their child's strengths and areas for growth.

Your child's education is a partnership and we thank you for making the time to attend.

If you did not have an opportunity to see your child's teacher, please contact the school or the teacher via Class Dojo to make an appointment.

Is Your Child Starting Kindergarten in 2019?

If you have a child who is starting Kindergarten next year, now is the time to come to the office and request an enrolment form.



Stage 3 Camp

Parents of Stage 3 students, don't forget to make your progress payments. Send to school in an envelope with your child's name, class and amount clearly marked.

Book Week 2018

It's time to start thinking about what book character your child be coming to school as on Wednesday 22nd August. This year the theme for Book Week is "Find Your Treasure." We look forward to seeing all our students (and teachers) dress up.



121 Numeracy Program

Throughout the year, targeted students from Years 1 and 2 have been involved in the 121 Numeracy Program.

What is the 121 Numeracy Program?

It is a program where mentors from a corporate company volunteer their time to come to our school once a week over the span of 9 weeks to work with students on their numeracy skills. This program is organised through the Australian Business Community Network. They engage large corporate companies who would like to give back to the community.

At the end of last term, Year 1 students said goodbye to their mentors after a term of learning foundation numeracy skills through mathematics games. They enjoyed working one-on-one with their mentors.


The 121 Numeracy Program will run again in Term 3 at Athelstane.



Education Week Open Day

Next week, parents and carers have an opportunity to come and see your children working in the classroom. Open classrooms will feature students working on problem solving in Mathematics. Parents are encouraged to join us for a workshop focusing on how to help your child in Mathematics. Students have also been preparing for the Athelstane Spelling Bee. Class winners will be


competing on Education Week Open Day for the opportunity to represent our school. We look forward to seeing you next week. Join the teachers for morning tea in the hall.



Athelstane Public School
HONOUR AND TRUTH
EDUCATION WEEK OPEN DAY
Wednesday 8th August 2018
"Today's schools-creating tomorrow's world"

9:15 - 9:40am	Spelling Bee - Yrs3/4 (Hall)
9:30 - 10:30 am	Open Classrooms K - 6
10:30 - 11:00 am	Spelling Bee - Yrs 5/6 (Hall)
11:00–11:20am	Morning Tea (Hall)
11:20 -12:20pm	Parent Workshop

'Helping your child with Mathematics'



We look forward to having you join us to celebrate Education Week 2018 at our great school.

What's been happening in Occupational Therapy (OT)

Students in Years 1 and 2 focused on handwriting skills in OT. We learnt that writing tall, short and long letters in different sizes affects how easy our writing is to read. If all the letters are the same size, it can make our writing very difficult to read.

Why is letter height important?

Learning correct letter height helps students:

- Focus on the content and organisation of ideas.
- Help others such as their Teachers/peers read their writing to understand their ideas.

- Maintain motivation to write. Students can lose motivation if they are having difficulty with their handwriting, which can lead to reduced practise.

This week's activities

This week the students wrote a paragraph and then used a clear lined overlay to check the size of their writing. The lines helped students see whether their tall, long and short letters were all different sizes and whether they were placed in the correct place on the line. Most students could use the strip well to evaluate the size of their writing. Students set goals for themselves and re-wrote some of their words to correct their mistakes.

What can I do to help my child with letter height at home?

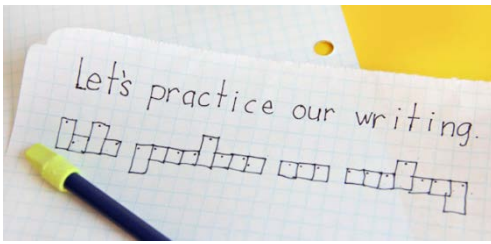
- Using graph paper (in some maths books) can help. Use one box for short letters like 'a' or 'e', two boxes for tall letters such as 'f' or 't' and two boxes for long letters such as 'q' or 'j'.
- Use four-lined paper (there are heaps of free samples online), instead of single-lined paper. This can help children understand how tall and long letters need to reach up/down further than their short letters.
- You can try highlighting a strip just above a single line and ask your child to write their short letters inside the highlighted component, their tall letters up above it and their longer letters down below the highlighted portion.

What do I look for?

Notice whether your child has difficulty performing any of the above activities. Leave a message with the office if you need any further tips or advice.

Enjoy!

Stephanie Clements (Occupational Therapist)



Students learnt how the size of their writing affects how legible it is, or how easy it is to read.

Schoolyard SNAPSHOT



ATHELSTANE CANTEEN

Eat Fresh & Win Competition



Come on down to the canteen to purchase some fresh fruit and veggies next week to go in the draw to win some amazing prizes!

How does it work?

1. Each time the student makes a 'healthy' selection from the school canteen they are rewarded with a sticker to add to their entry form.
2. Upon collecting 2 stickers, students return their entry form to the canteen to collect their reward. Enter as many times as you like.
3. The final step is for Canteen Managers to send all completed entry forms back to Sydney Markets by Friday 28 September 2018. The major prize draw will take place on Wednesday 17th October 2018.

GOOD LUCK!

THANK YOU FOR ORDERING WITH US



NCCD

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

School Students with Disability

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) is a process that all schools must do every year. It counts the number of students who receive extra adjustments or 'help' at school because of a disability, as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA).

To count a student in the NCCD, schools must think through some key questions:

1. Is the student getting help at school so that they can take part in education on the same basis as other students?
2. Is the help given because of a disability? The word 'disability' comes from the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) and it can include many students.
3. Has the school talked to you or your child about the help that they provide?
4. Has the school kept records about the help they provide, the student needs and the reasons that the student needs this help? The school will need to keep copies of tests, student work, assessments, records of meetings, medical reports or other paperwork and information about how the student's learning is moving along over time.

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on school students with a disability (NCCD) provides all Australian schools, education authorities and the community with a clear picture of the number of students receiving adjustments because of disability (as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1992) in schools, and the adjustments they are provided which enable them to access the curriculum and participate in education on the same basis as other students.

The Australian Education Regulation 2013, requires that all schools provide information to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training for the purposes of NCCD. The information that schools must provide to the Department includes, in relation to each student with a disability at a school:

- The student's level of education (ie. primary or secondary)
- The student's category of disability, aligned with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (ie. physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional)
- The student's level of adjustment (ie. support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive adjustments).

Please note, any information collected, **will not identify any individual student, in any way.**

For further information regarding the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data for students with a disability, please visit:

For further information go to:

<https://docs.education.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/2018-nccd-fact-sheet-for-parents-and-carers-english.pdf>