

Newsletter of Alfords Point Public School TO THE POINT

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# **Excellence, Innovation & Success in a Caring Environment**

#### Friday 28 February 2020 Term 1 Week 5 Dear Parents, Staff & Students

As a whole school we have been focusing on the three big school rules: Take Care of Yourself, Take Care of Each Other and Take Care of this Place as a reminder of how we need to interact at school. As a collective we have reflected on what 'Take Care of this Place' and 'Take care of Each Other' means and how by doing this we ensure that Alfords Point Public School remains a safe place where everyone is known, valued and cared for. In achieving this we also address the third big school rule of 'Take Care of Yourself' as the three are closely connected. I encourage families to continue this discussion at home.

Choosing kind words and putting our best effort into all that we do whether that is learning in the classroom or building relationships with our peers, helps us to take care of ourselves and others. It has been wonderful to witness positive situations this week when our students have been building up others through encouragement and kind words. Keep it up!

## Clean Up Australia Day

Today Alfords Point Public School participated in Clean Up Australia Day. Thank you to all the students and teachers who were out and about across the school today participating in Clean Up Australia Day. One of our big school rules is to 'Take Care of This Place'. Our students have certainly done this today and have helped to make sure our school is a great place to be not only for themselves but for others too.

#### Working With Children Check (WWCC)

Parent/Carer helpers and volunteers within our school are vital to ensure the smooth running of many of our highly successful programs throughout the school. The opportunities for parent helpers and volunteers are many and varied, be it in the classroom helping with reading or Community Maths, to being involved in K-2 sport, helping out in the canteen or assisting at carnivals. The students and staff are grateful for the support they receive from our parent helpers and volunteers. If you are willing to take on a role such as this, we ask that you please complete an Appendix 5 form and bring 100 points of identification to the office. Parent/Carer or those volunteers related to students at the school do not require a Working With Children Check (WWCC); however, they do need to have the Appendix 5 form and 100 point identification on file in the office. Public Schools NSW require all parent helpers and volunteers who wish to assist in schools to provide this information prior to assisting at school. Thank you for your understanding.

#### **Contact details**

It is very important that the school has up to date contact details for all children. Could you please notify the school if your details have changed so that we can update our system. Your attention to this is appreciated.

DATES FOR YOU	R DIARY
March 3	Engadine Zone Swimming Carnival
March 10	Kindergarten 2021 Open Morning
March 16	P&C meeting 7pm
March 20	Grandparents/Harmony Day
March 30-April 1	Stage 3 camp
April 3	Alfords Point Public School Cross Country Carnival Coachwood Oval
April 6	School Photos
April 9	Last Day of Term / Kindergarten Easter Hat Parade

OUR VALUES AT ALFORDS POINT PUBLIC SCHOOL ARE AS SOLID AS A ROCK

#### **Tell Them From Me**

This term, our school, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. More information about the survey is available at: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school. I want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 9 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you <u>do not</u> want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by **02/03/2020**. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from: <u>http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents</u>.

#### Kindergarten 2021

On Wednesday 10 March at 9.30am children and parents of pre-schoolers who will be starting school in 2021 are invited to attend an open morning. Visitors will attend an information session and participate in some hands-on activities in the kindergarten classrooms followed by a visit to the mobile farm. If you know of any families who have children starting school in 2021 please invite them to come along. A flyer will be letter dropped in Alfords Point in the coming week and information will also be left at the local preschools in Alfords Point and Illawong. Enrolment forms are available at the school office or online.

#### Harmony Day/Grandparents/Friends Day

All grandparents/grandfriends are invited to our school on Friday 20 March at 10am to celebrate Grandparents Day and Harmony Day. This year's Harmony Day theme is Everyone Belongs. This of course supports our school as we are a Kids Matter school. Every Face has a Place at Alfords Point Public School. The students and staff look forward to welcoming our grandparents/grandfriends on the day. Further details of this day will come home shortly in the form of a note. Please mark the date in your calendars.

#### Parents & Citizens Meeting

Thank you to those parents who were able to attend the **Parents & Citizens Meeting** and AGM which followed on Monday 17 February 2020. Our P&C is such an important part of our school and it does raise valuable funds for all the students in our school.

I would like to welcome the new P&C Executive and Sub - Committee members:

#### P&C Executive:

President – Danielle Meggos

Vice President – Kynwyn Thomas

Secretary – Tia Croft

Treasurer – Janette Magee

#### P&C Sub Committee:

Fundraising – Mark Vandy and Shellee McGeachie

Uniform – Sarah Walker and Kate Davies

#### Parent Teacher Interviews—save the date

Kindergarten	Monday 30 March
Stage 1	Tuesday 31 March
Stage 2	Wednesday 1 April
Stage 3	Wednesday 25 March

Further information to follow.

#### School Photos – save the date

Our School Photographs will be taken on Monday 6 April 2020. Envelopes have been sent home today. Family photo envelopes are available at the front office if required. Full school summer uniform with the correct black shoes are the order for the day along with great manners and cooperative behaviour.

#### Dance Outstanding Fees

Junior and Senior dance and the boys Hip Hop group are up and running. Just a reminder that term 1 fees for junior and senior dance were due today. Please ensure payments are made so that students do not miss out on attending the lessons. As previously advised the junior, senior and boys dance program is an extra curricula activity and as such the school is unable to subsidise costs for participants. Unfortunately, as this is an extra-curricula activity students with outstanding fees will not be able to participate.

#### Selective High School Placement Test 2020 for entry to Year 7 in 2021

The Selective High School Placement Test will be held at Georges River College Peakhurst Campus on Thursday 12 March 2020 from 9.00am to 1.30pm.

#### Annette Wein Principal





Our school has been a Crunch & Sip school for several years. Crunch and Sip is a set time during the school day for students to eat vegetables and fruit and drink water in the classroom. Students are asked to bring fresh vegetables and/or fruit and a water bottle to school each day for the Crunch & Sip break. It is preferable to have the vegetables/fruit cut up and placed into a small reusable container.

Giving students the chance to re-fuel with fruit or vegetables helps to improve physical and mental performance and concentration in the classroom, as well as promoting long term health.

Teaching students the importance of good nutrition is part of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education program. To help us promote the message of good nutrition we ask you not to pack lollies and chocolate in lunch boxes.

We also ask our students not to share food as we have several students who have allergies to various foods. Alfords Point is also a nut aware school. Please avoid packing food that contains nuts. Thank you for your support

#### Anne Brown

# SRC NEWS

This week our SRC had their first meeting and they will be organising a few events this term. We look forward to celebrating Harmony Day with our school community, Grandparents & friends on Friday 20 March and we encourage everyone to wear a 'splash of orange' on this day. The SRC would also like to celebrate Autism Awareness Day this year and it will be great if students come to school wearing a 'splash of blue' on Thursday 2 April. We will also put together ANZAC care packages for our Australian troops and post them so that they are received in time for ANZAC day. As Easter is fast approaching, the SRC would also like to run our annual Easter Eggshibition along with an Easter Egg guessing competition at the end of this term.

The SRC have already started the year off with great suggestions and have been very proactive with our Return & Earn Blue Bin collection. We look forward to working with the SRC as they continue to support our school and community.

Notes will be sent home with more details in relation to the above events in the upcoming weeks.

#### Maria Panourgias & Emily Townsend.

# DANCE

#### **Junior Girls Dance Troupe**

Our junior dancers have started learning their routine for our performances this year. Dance starts at 8.15am sharp on Tuesday mornings and it would be great if all dancers can be there on time. If you still have unpaid dance fees, please make the payment as they are now overdue.

#### Maria Panourgias

### **SPORTS NEWS**

We have had a successful week in the sporting arena. Congratulations to Madison H and Lotu H. These two students have been selected as part of the Engadine Zone Basketball and Rugby League teams respectively. We wish them well later in the month as they trial for a place at regional levels. Well done. Good Luck to Max W, Jordan K, Lucas P and Lincoln W who will be attending the Engadine Zone Soccer trials next week. We know they will give it their best and be wonderful ambassadors for our school.

On Friday 13 March week 7 during sport we will commence the trials for students interested in being part of the Alfords Point Public School winter PSSA teams. This year we will be entering 2 x junior and 1 x senior soccer team and this is open to both girls and boys. We will also be entering 2 x junior and 2 x senior netball teams in the Engadine Zone PSSA competition and this is also open to both boys and girls. The PSSA competition commences in term 2 and is open to students from years 3 - 6.

Good luck to our Alfords Point Public School squad of 33 swimmers who are going to Engadine Pool next Tuesday to represent themselves and our school at the Engadine Zone swimming carnival. Once again, for the ninth year, Alfords Point Public School are organising and coordinating this zone carnival that will be contested by 14 other schools in our Zone.

#### **Debbie Burke**

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK - Term 1 Week	5
KDAnastasia KKTMracus K1-2PBebe F1-2MElizabeth W1-2JAlex L3-4RMelaia T3-4PLina K4-5MAlexandra S5-6BLucas D5-6DAyla K	5





Please report trespassers in the school grounds to: School Security **1300 880 021** OR Sutherland Police Station **9542 0899** 



# **Attendance Counts**

When your child misses just	that equals	which is	and therefore, from Kind to Year 12, that is
10 minutes a day	50 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 1½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year of schoo
20 minutes a day	1 hour and 40 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 2½ weeks per year	Nearly a year of school
½ hour a day	½ a day of learning a week	4 weeks a year	Nearly 1 ½ years of learning
1 hour each day	1 whole day of learning each week	8 weeks per year or nearly a term a year.	Over 2 ½ years of learnin

When your child misses just	that equals	which is	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is	This means that the best your child can achieve is
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ a years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4