



ASCOT NEWS

12th May, 2009

Volume 2, Issue 4

Website: www.avps.vic.edu.au

Newsletters are available online

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Term 2 Key Dates (Please keep for future reference)

12 – 14 May	NAPLAN testing
13 May	Unit 1 & 2 Assembly
18 May	School Council & sub-committee meetings
20 May	Unit 3 Assembly
21 May	School Banking
27 May	Unit 4 Assembly
29 May	Parent Rep meeting/ Special lunch day
3 June	Unit 5 Assembly
5 June	Soccer Tournament
8 June	Queen's Birthday Long Weekend (no school)
10 June	Whole School Assembly
12 June	Curriculum Day (pupil free)
15 June	School Council & sub-committee meetings
17 June	Units 1 & 2 Assembly
24 June	Unit 3 Assembly
25 June	Student Reports sent home
26 June	Winter sport ends Parent Rep meeting/ Special lunch day Last day Term 2- early dismissal 2.30 p.m.

School Assembly Wednesday mornings 9 – 9:30am

Yard supervised between 8:45 - 9:00am before school and 3:30 – 3:45pm after school

IT'S NOT OK TO BE AWAY

From The Principal

Such a lot of work for everyone at school and at home but well worth the effort when you finally get to sit back and watch the children perform! Planet X was a big success last Wednesday and offered all the children the opportunity to showcase their acting, singing and drama skills. I was smiling constantly from my view in the wings and pleased and proud of them all. For many children it was their first time on stage so they were a little nervous and they must have been tired from the all day rehearsal, but on they went and entertained us. Well done to the lead actors and back-up singers who had that bit extra to practice and perform on the night. Unit items were great and the whole evening was helped along by the Rock Ed Music Company. There is usually one person coordinating, initiating and leading others in a show this size and, in this instance, this staff member was Poppy. Poppy volunteered her time to organise the script, select actors and rehearse with them regularly to prepare them for their performances. Thank you sincerely Poppy for this extra special work and the great effort you put into getting us ready for the Concert. You have the remainder of this year and the next to rest and then we will begin all again on a new show! Hopefully, concerts will be held bi-annually at AVPS with Animation Fairs taking place in the year in-between.

Last week, the school placed a large order for classroom technologies. A variety of equipment will be installed into classrooms over the next month-interactive whiteboards, plasma TV's and wall mounted projectors. A set of laptops on a trolley will arrive for the library but will be portable enough to move between Units as needed. Funds for this equipment have come from parent fundraising, the school's annual ICT budget and from the Commonwealth's National Schools Pride funding. Also from the latter funding, architects are to be contracted to work on Reading Towers for classrooms and interior painting has begun in Unit 1 and along the corridor outside Units 2 and 3. The remaining painting will be completed in weekend stints over the next 5 weeks to minimise classroom disruption. All these are exciting things happening in and around the school, but they may also require a little patience as the work begins in earnest! Plumbers, painters, carpenters, architects and technicians on site to undertake our refurbishment plan.

Joanne Roberts, Principal
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From the Assistant Principal

NAPLAN

The national Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests for students in grades 3 and 5 will be held this week; Tuesday 12th May, Wednesday 13th May and Thursday 14th May 2009.

For more information about the tests, please visit the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAPLAN website at www.naplan.edu.au

Student Birthdays this week

Ewan G – Unit 5 – who turns 9 on the 13th May

Kaylin H – Unit 5 – who turns 8 on the 15th May

Callum H – Unit 1 – who turns 7 on the 17th May

Enjoy your week.

Michael Downing, Assistant Principal
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School Council

The 2008 AVPS Annual Report is available from the general office. All interested families may request a copy.

Education Tax Refund- FYI

The Education Tax Refund is a new Commonwealth Government initiative to help eligible families and independent students meet the cost of primary and secondary school education.

The education tax refund means that parents, carers, legal guardians and independent students can claim 50% back on eligible education-related expenses for the 2008/09 financial year.

Parents can claim 50% on eligible educational expenses if:

- They received Family Tax Benefit (FTB) Part A for the child, or
- A payment was made for the child that stopped them from receiving FTB Part A for that child.

The maximum you can claim is 50% of eligible expenses up to:

- \$750 for each eligible child in primary school – that is, a refund of up to \$375
- \$1,500 for each eligible child in secondary school – that is, a refund of up to \$750.

For detailed information from the Australian Taxation Office and for all claim enquiries, see: Australian Taxation Office [Education Tax Refund - what you need to know](http://www.ato.gov.au/individuals/) (http://www.ato.gov.au/individuals/)

Writing @ Ascot Vale PS

Writing this week consists of two versions of children's responses to the concert. Jamel has written a detailed account of what went on at the Clocktower on Wednesday night. He has put a lot of thought into his response. We can hear the glee in his voice as we read his recount!!! Jamel has paid serious attention to both authorial and secretarial aspects of his writing.

On the other side of the paper Jason Tan has chosen to express his thoughts with an acrostic which is a different way of putting his thoughts on paper. Both call on children to give clear and concise reactions to the event they have been asked to recall and this has occurred in both cases.

A Big Thank You!

What a wonderful time we all had on Friday afternoon over a cuppa and scone. The Fundraising Committee wants to thank everyone who attended and especially all the SRC helpers for doing a wonderful job looking after our mums. And to all our fine musicians who played such beautiful music in the background.

Special thanks to:

- COLES – Moonee Ponds for donating the cream, coffee, tea and jam,
- BAKERS DELIGHT – Union Rd for helping out with the scones, and to
- ASCOT VALE FLORIST – Union Rd for donating the beautiful flowers for the tables.

Fundraising Committee

Bookfair

Next week is bookfair time again. Flyers will be sent home this week giving out times of business. This year there will be an opportunity for people to purchase books for fire affected schools and we will be donating a portion of our profit to these schools. So please come along next week and support our Bookfair.

Community Arts Project

Grade 6 students at Ascot Vale will be involved in Moonee Valley City Council's annual Arts Week program. The Arts project we will be working on is called WindFakta. This will take place on Thursday 14th May 9-11 am at AVPS.

In 2009, Arts Week is *Exploring Sustainability* and WindFakta is a fantastic opportunity for the Moonee Valley community to contribute to Arts Week. Led by local artist Lisa Garcia, this project will

transform plastic drink bottles into wind wheels to form a suspended work-in-progress Community art installation that will be on display at the Incinerator Arts Complex, 180 Holmes Road, Moonee Ponds from 13 – 24 May.

Arts Week 2009 is scheduled for 9 – 17 May and is an annual program of arts events and activities that seeks to not only showcase the arts in the Moonee Valley locality, but to encourage local residents to experience and engage with the arts.

All Grade 6 students will need to bring along an empty water drink bottle to create their work of art.
Thanks, Lucy

National Walk to School Day

Don't forget that Friday May 15th is National Walk to School Day.

Take out those walking shoes and walk to school. If it is too far to walk, park the car further away from school and walk some of the distance. Go on, you know it's good for you and it will be fun!

Uniform Shop

The next date for the Uniform Shop is **Thursday 4 June** between 3.00pm and 4.00pm. To order online, use the PSW website, www.psw.com.au and follow the prompts. The PSW shop in Deer Park is located at 58 Westwood Drive, Deer Park. Telephone: 9363 8458. Opening Hours are Monday-Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm, Saturday 9.00am – 5.00pm.

OSHC NEWS THIS WEEK

'we make kids smile'



Monday – "AASP" Basketball
Tuesday – Playground Games
Wednesday – "AACP" Volleyball
Thursday - Octopus
Friday – Kids Choice

Please ensure that all cancellations are made before closing (6pm) the day before. Cancellations made after this time are charged at the normal rate. Cancellations or bookings can be made through the school office, the program (9326 0936) or through Camp Australia Head Office on 8851 4160. All enquiries in regard to invoicing, payment or CCB (Child Care Benefit) should be made to the OSHC administration team on 8851 4160.
Peter and the OSHC team.