ASCOT NEWS
29th February, 2012
Volume 1, Issue 4
Website: www.avps.vic.edu.au
Newsletters are available online

www.twitter.com/AscotValePS
Ph: 9370 6507  Fax: 9370 5150

2012 Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 March</td>
<td>Uniform Shop open between 3pm and 4pm in the Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 March</td>
<td>Swimming Trials @ Queen’s Park Pool 7.45-8.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 March</td>
<td>Unit 4 Assembly, 3 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 March</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 March</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival @ Queen’s Park Pool 9.00-12.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday (long weekend)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 March</td>
<td>School Council &amp; Subcommittee meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 March</td>
<td>Unit 5 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 March</td>
<td>School Photography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 March</td>
<td>Specialist Programs Assembly, 3 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AVPS Camp Years 5 &amp; 6 26-28 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 March</td>
<td>AVPS Camp Years 3 &amp; 4 28 – 30 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 March</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1. Students dismissed at 2.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 April - 29 June</td>
<td>Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 18 April</td>
<td>Year 6 into 7 Transition Parent Information Evening, 7 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 2 May</td>
<td>Prep 2013 Parent Information Evening, 7 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 July – 21 September</td>
<td>Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 October – 21 December</td>
<td>Term 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From The Principal
Thank you to the families that attended the Unit Information Evening last week. Hopefully, parents are feeling well informed about Unit routines, home school expectations and current work. Although we hold our regular activities—information nights, parent teacher interviews and student led conferences throughout the year, please always ring or make an appointment at any time to meet with staff or myself if you have concerns or questions to put to us about your child. I attended each session to particularly take notice of parent questions so I could feed this information back into staff meetings for further discussion. The teachers had quite a few questions about homework. Homework has been an ongoing discussion at AVPS as we have such diverse parent opinions and expectations about this topic. In response, the School Council has endorsed a Homework Philosophy rather than a policy statement. It is published on our website for your information and reference. Each year the school sets an action plan for improvement. It is called our Annual Implementation Plan. School Council will endorse our AIP at its next meeting in March. Recent opinion surveys from parents, students and teachers have focused this year’s action plan and review around homework, reporting and general communication. From a curriculum perspective, we are focussing upon handwriting and spelling across the year levels. This follows on naturally from our broader work of reviewing our whole school scope and sequence integrated curriculum topics and mapping key literacy and numeracy strategies against these last year. Units are trialling our new curriculum documentation this year. In 2013 schools will move to the new national curriculum, AusVELS, and our work prepares us well for this transition. The School Council and the Education and Community subcommittees help us with this work and our AIP. At this month’s meeting, it was decided to establish a Grounds subcommittee for at least 2012 to coordinate the garden/ground’s work we plan following the building project. If interested, parents are able to join a subcommittee without being involved as a school councillor. School Council elections for the 2012 School Council take place over the next month. Please note and respond as interested to the School Council parent nomination form included in this newsletter.

My questions to the Year 2/3/4 students indicate that these children are enjoying their swimming lessons. Thank you teachers!
Joanne Roberts
roberts.joanne.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

From The Assistant Principal

TRAVEL TO SCHOOL SURVEY
The City of Moonee Valley is conducting a survey of all school children at AVPS and their parents to find out more about how children travel to school. The survey is designed to find out about danger spots around the school so that council can decide how to spend money in future budgets on local infrastructure, such as crossings, footpaths and cycle paths.
The City of Moonee Valley wants to make it easier for children to be able to walk and cycle to school and this survey will help by identifying areas where improvements are needed. The council has engaged a sustainable transport consultancy, UrbanTrans, to run the survey. Students are completing a survey each within their class this week.
We would strongly encourage all parents to complete the online survey so we can get your views. Link to the online survey:
http://mooneevalleyschoolsurveys.com/ascot-valle-primary-school.html

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact the UrbanTrans project manager, David Meiklejohn on meiklejohnd@urbantrans-anz.com or 0448 710 050.

MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES POLICY
Mobile communication devices (MCD) are important modern day communication tools. Many MCD’s now include cameras (both video and still), sound recording capabilities, music players and can even track where you are. The ‘always on’ nature of these devices means that risks, such as cyber bullying, accessing inappropriate content and being distracted from learning, are always present. They can easily be improperly used, lost or damaged and must therefore be effectively managed. Ascot Vale PS wishes to utilise the benefits of these MCD’s, including mobile phones whilst managing the problems they can potentially cause. Any member of the school community misusing a MCD, whilst on school property or engaged in school activities, will be brought to the attention of the Principal. Please also refer to the full policy online at:
PERSONAL PROPERTY
Each year the Education Department (DEECD) asks all Principals to inform their school communities of the following:
• Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.
• The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.
• Staff and students should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.
• Schools are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. These costs may be recoverable where an injury is caused by the negligence (carelessness) of the Department, a school council or their employees or volunteers.
• Student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance.

AVPS STUDENT CODE OF COOPERATION
Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the AVPS Student Code of Cooperation. It is a document that is important to support learning, safety and cooperation. Our Student Representative Council and our school council education subcommittee have both reviewed this document as it is 4 years old. We are now asking for parents/ carer’s feedback about this document. Is there anything that you think we should add or omit, or is it just fine the way it is? Please forward any feedback for consideration in writing to me by no later than Friday 9th March 2012.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK
Happy birthday to: Liam U3, Alannah U2 & Tahlia U3.

Michael Downing – Assistant Principal
downing.michael.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

CANTEEN CLEAN UP –
We are planning a canteen clean out & clean up this Thursday 1/3/11 from 9am onwards. We would love as many helpers as possible to make the job easier & quicker. So if you have any free time we’d love to see you in the canteen. BYO gloves everything else will be supplied.....maybe even coffee!!! See you there - Fundraising Team.

Adam Bandt, MP Melbourne, to visit AVPS to talk to interested parents re the Gonski report
This report was released this week and is the result of a government review into school funding that was commissioned in 2010. Adam is keen to speak to interested parents and to answer their questions at an informal meeting at the school next Wednesday 7 March, 3-4 pm. The meeting will be held in Music room (new building). The full report with an Executive summary of recommendations and findings can be found online.

Writing @ Ascot Vale PS
In Unit 1 last week, students spent some time considering the Sunflower. The two pieces of writing we have in our Newsletter this week are examples of the conclusions that Peter and Cat came to about these remarkable plants. Peter has barely been as school for a month and is already demonstrating to us his command of many writing basics viz, use of capital letters, directionality, spacing and punctuating. Cat is a grade one student who also demonstrates such understandings although obviously in a more sophisticated way. Enjoy this writing keeping in mind that it is a first draft from both students.

Help Wanted in Library / Learning Studio
Can you help? We need some parent help between 9-10am weekly on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Jobs would include book covering, returning books to shelves, and general organisational tasks. If you can help please contact Tina via email on kountouri.tina.t@edumail.vic.gov.au

Fresh Fruit Friday
Our Children are fortunate to receive fresh fruit in their units each Friday thanks to a Government Grant. All we need to prepare it is about 20 minutes of parent help in the canteen from 9.00am. Each unit is rostered twice per term. Please see your parent rep/s if you can help, or just turn up.
This week, 2nd March, Unit 1 parents
Next week, 9th March, Unit 2 parents
G.A.T.E.W.A.Y.S

G.A.T.E.W.A.Y.S. offers programs for gifted and talented students across Western Metropolitan Region. As interested, some AVPS students have attended these events in the past. Registration, program costs and transport to program venues is the responsibility of parents. Attendance at a GATEWAYS program is not counted as an absence from school but, rather, school for the day elsewhere. Here is the next round of program opportunities for interested high achievers:

-'The Amazing Human Body Program' for Grade 5/6 at ACMI
-'Go For Gold' for Grade 5/6 at the Firbank Learning and Innovation Centre
-'Conservation Crusaders' for Grade 5/6 at the Werribee Zoo
-'Junior Keepers In Training' - for Grades 1/2 at Werribee Zoo
-'Stands To Reason' for Grades 5/6 at the Arts Centres Digital Hub
-'En Garde' for Grades 5/6 at Fencing Victoria
-'Imagined Lives' for Grade 3/4 at the National Gallery of Victoria, International

For program details, dates and costs please visit the website:
www.gateways.edu.au

I do have electronic copies of program information that I could email to you. Hardcopies can be printed upon request.
Joanne

Uniform Shop

The Uniform shop opens in the School Hall on the first Thursday of every Month. The next scheduled opening is Thursday 1st March 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.

Please Note: The store will be closed between Wednesday 21 December 2011 – Monday 2 January 2012 (Inclusive) for Christmas and will reopen from Tuesday 3rd January 2012.

Walking School Bus News

The AVPS Walking School Bus walkers are well and truly walking to school twice a week. Our walking mornings are Tuesday and Thursday.

This route starts at Cnr of McPherson & Thomas Street, head south on McPherson, McNae and then west along Addison street towards Mount Alexander Road. We will head down south on Mt Alexander Road towards AVPS.

This walks takes the children only 25 minutes. This walking school bus starts at the first stop at 8:25am on Tuesday and Thursday. We have a couple of ‘bus stops’ on enroute. So if you are on our way or can meet us on our way, we will be more than happy to create a ‘bus stop’ for you.

If you are interested in your child joining the school bus, please contact me or leave your details with Janet in school office.

VOLUNTEER WALKERS NEEDED

If you have 30 mins to spare one morning a week and you come from the south side of AVPS, please consider being a volunteer for the Walking School Bus. In order to get the second route started from Wingate community centre to school, we need at least two more volunteer. If there are more volunteers we can do this route on multiple days. Again, please contact me if you require more information.

I am contactable on thampotter@bigpond.com or 0412023688 or 93842448. I am keeping my fingers crossed that I will hear from some of you either as participants or volunteers.

Keep on walking!

Dogs at School

THANK YOU FOR HAVING ANY DOGS AT SCHOOL ON LEADS. HOWEVER, DOGS ALSO NEED TO BE TIED UP OUTSIDE RATHER THAN WALKED THROUGH THE SCHOOL OR INTO CLASSROOMS PLEASE. HEALTH AND HYGIENE REASONS ARE BEHIND THIS REQUIREMENT.

Your cooperation and consideration regarding this matter is appreciated.
Rain is predicted for this week, so we may have a movie night, indoor games depending on the weather.

We hope you have a pleasant week. 
Dee and the OSHC team.

WHAT’S ON THIS WEEK

**MONDAY**
Movie and Popcorn

**TUESDAY**
Kelly Sports - Soccer

**WEDNESDAY**
Paper Craft

**THURSDAY**
Zumba

**FRIDAY**
Group Games

---

**REMINDERS**

How to get started before using our programs you must register online for an account. Registering is quick and easy. Visit our website to begin [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au). Once registered you can make bookings and cancellations, view your statements and manage your details anytime of the day online. Keep in mind we are able to take bookings at short notice to help busy families.

**Save on Care** You can save 50% or more on Before and After School Care fees with the non-means tested Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343 Monday to Friday.

**OSHC NEWS**

It is wonderful to see all out preps settling in very well. They seem to be a lot more aware of their surroundings now. However we will continue to pick them up from their respective classrooms and also take them to their classroom after before care. This week we will be doing child profiles, so we can find out what they like to eat, their hobbies etc and this will be used as a point of reference, so that programming and activities can be adjusted accordingly.

OSHC has never requested parents for any items to be brought in the past but this time it would be great if you can send a display book so that we can put all the art work etc and each child will have their own book. A twenty pocket display book costs $1 at BigW. I would be most grateful if you can send one display book to OSHC.

This week too we will have Kelly Sports on Tuesday and Zumba on Thursday. We will also be doing some paper weaving for craft. The older children have started making bears and dolls and a few are doing very well with the sewing.
ASCOT VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

STUDENT CODE OF CO-OPERATION

STUDENTS AT ASCOT VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL WILL:

▷ Recognise each other’s special talents and difference
▷ Work in teams
▷ Behave fairly
▷ Act safely
▷ Take notice if others are unhappy
▷ Stand up for themselves in a helpful way

IT IS IMPORTANT TO WORK, BE SAFE & CO-OPERATE

WE WILL THEN SEE ALL STUDENTS:

▷ Getting a fair go
▷ Playing by the rules and displaying sportsmanship
▷ Talking about and solving problems together
▷ Helping each other - being good buddies
▷ Speaking politely to everyone
▷ Respecting everyone’s personal space
OPEN DAYS
1. Sunday, 4 March 2012 at 10.30am.

Meet in the college car park off Mt Alexander Road (Old “Soundhouse”). Tours of the college’s facilities with current parents. This is during the Farmer’s Market (9am to 1pm), so come and buy some wonderful fresh organic produce too!

2. Tuesday 13 March 10am to 12.30 pm.

Tours of the school during a normal day will be available. Visitors will also be given a tour by one of our students and new brochures about our programs. All welcome.

Enrolment enquiries at any time: Phone: 93761622
Email: mount.alexander.712@edumail.vic.gov.au

www.mountalexander.vic.edu.au
The Play Group at Ascot Vale Primary School has commenced for 2012 and all parents/families are invited to join in. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents and younger siblings to make friends within the school community.

The playgroup is a casual gathering and families can come on a week by week basis, without any long term commitment. It has been initiated with the idea of creating a cohesive school community and to encourage the development of friendships.

Other than the gold coin donation of $2.00 per session, there are no other costs attached. So please come and join us!

**Time:** 9 - 11 am Fridays

**Venue:** Community Room in the New Building

**Cost:** $2.00 per session (to cover tea/coffee/snacks/ materials)
Honey and Bok Bok

Did you know that the school’s chooks are now part of the Zaccari’s household? They might be making them a new coop. They are doing really well at the Zaccari’s place where they have a lot of food and free time to themselves. They’re laying beautiful eggs for cakes and other yummy things. The photos show you how well they are doing with the Zaccarisi and how healthy they look in retirement!

By Ella Zaccari Unit 2
Numeracy News

Here are some problems for you to solve: (1 easy and 1 a little harder)

How many addition signs should be put between digits of the number 987654321 and where should we put them to get a total of 99?

The school is having a bean bag toss contest. The person who tosses the most bean bags through the hoop wins. Nancy won the contest but made her mum guess how many bean bags she got through the hoop. Here are the clues Nancy gave.

There are more than 53.
There are fewer than 57.
It is an odd number.

How many bean bags did Nancy toss through the hoop?

Finish the table, counting by ones, and use the clues to write the number. _____

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lore Tuition is an educational service offering students assistance in: Mathematics, English and Science.

Private and Group Tuition are offered for all year levels. All tutors are second or final-year undergraduates and graduates of Top Universities in Australia.

Classes are held at YOUR SCHOOL on SATURDAYS during the term. Mention this advertisement and receive a FREE consultation before you enrol.

CALL JACKSON ON 0434 428 902
OR VISIT WWW.LORETUITION.COM.AU.
An Information Evening will be held in the College Theatre on Tuesday 1st May 2012.

Two sessions will take place:

4.00pm Information session and Tour

7.00pm Information session and Tour

**Tours** - The college will conduct tours on Wednesdays at 8.50am to 9.30am and Thursdays at 8.50am to 9.30am.

College tours will commence on Wednesday 14th March and end on Wednesday 2nd May.

Tour bookings can be made by contacting the General Office on 9389 0600.

Further information about the enrolment process and important dates are posted on the website – [www.phsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.phsc.vic.edu.au)
SHARKS FUTSAL IS HERE!

SHARKSFUTSAL.COM.AU

$50 - 5 WEEK PROGRAM
STARTS WEDNESDAY 29TH FEBRUARY

INCLUDES SHARKS T-SHIRT & BALL

WHERE: WHITTEN OVAL SPORTS HALL
WHEN: WEDNESDAYS 4:30-5:15 (7,8,9 YEAR OLDS)
       WEDNESDAYS 5:30-6:15 (10,11,12 YEAR OLDS)

MELBOURNE SHARKS FUTSAL CLUB

FREE FIRST SESSION

CALL 0450 711 861 FOR DETAILS
Aren't amazing because they follow the sun.

Aren't amazing because they follow the sun.

Amazing sunflowers.

Monday 20th February 2012

1. When the sun moves, the sunflowers are very clever.
2. Sunflowers mostly grow up to 1 metre.
3. Sunflowers grow very fast in Russia.
4. Sunflowers can grow very big.
5. I love sunflowers very sunny.

I grow sunflowers in Russia.

Sunflowers are very clever.
NOMINATIONS INVITED
SCHOOL COUNCIL POSITIONS 2012 – 2013

Parents' Guardians, if you are interested in being on School Council please complete the form below and return it to the general office by 4pm, Friday 9 March 2012.

I would strongly urge people to nominate for School Council. The School Council has a most important role in developing the future direction of our school, especially in the areas of Finance, Education, Community policy and Grounds development. The Council (usually) meets each third Monday of the month from 7 – 9pm, at least 8 times a year. Some months the dates are changed after negotiation with members.

Please contact me for further information,

Joanne Roberts
Principal

______________________________

PARENT MEMBERS
NOMINATION FORM FOR 2012-2013 SCHOOL COUNCIL

NAME: __________________________________________

YOUR CHILD’S NAME: ______________________________ UNIT: ________

ADDRESS: _______________________________________

_________________________________________________

SIGNATURE: _______________________________________

☐ 2yr ☐ 1yr (casual parent vacancy) (Please tick your preference)

SELF NOMINATION (please circle if using this option)

OR

NOMINATOR’S NAME: _____________________________________

NOMINATOR'S SIGNATURE: _______________________________

Complete and return this Nomination to the general office by 4pm Friday 9 March 2012
ASCOT VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS 2012 – 2013

The Ascot Vale School Council will be made up of the Principal and 12 elected representatives as follows:

8 PARENTS (up to 2 may be Department of Education employees) 2 year tenure with half retiring on alternate years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office Expires Feb 2012</th>
<th>Offers Expires Feb 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Susie Lauer</td>
<td>Cheryl Blair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Edwards</td>
<td>Lynette Menton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Baillon</td>
<td>John Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jason Blakiston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jamie Ferris (resigning 2012)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 EMPLOYEES of the Department of Education (not Parents) 2 year tenure with half retiring on alternate years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offer Expires Feb 2012</th>
<th>Offer Expires Feb 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Downing</td>
<td>Julie Clarke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assunta Right</td>
<td>Vacancy- position not filled 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elections are held in February/March each year. The timeline for the 2012 School Council is as follows:

- Call for nominations: 29 Feb 2012
- Closing date for nominations: 9 March 2012, 4pm
- List of candidates and nominators displayed: 12 March 2012
- Ballot papers distributed: 12 March 2012
- Close of ballot: 16 March 2012, 4pm
- Vote count and declaration of ballot: 16 March 2012, 5 pm
- First School Council meeting for 2012: 19 March 2012, 7 pm

Therefore, positions up for election this year are:

4 x Parent Representatives (3 x 2 year tenure, 1 x casual vacancy for 2012)

3 x Employee Representatives

The school Principal works as Chief Executive Officer of the School Council without voting rights but the Principal is able to veto a School Council decision giving reasons in writing. The Assistant Principal (unless elected as an Employee representative) usually attends but without voting rights. Business Managers and representatives of