



# ASCOT NEWS

3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2009

Volume 1, Issue 5

Website: [www.avps.vic.edu.au](http://www.avps.vic.edu.au)

Newsletters are available online

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## Term 1 Key Dates (Please keep for future Reference)

3 March	Family Picnic/ Unit Information Evening
4 Mar	Unit 5 assembly
5 Mar	Uniform Shop open at AVPS 3.00 – 4.00 pm (in Unit 6)
Mon 9 Mar	LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY
10, 11, 12 & 13 Mar 16, 17, 19 & 20 Mar	5/6 Swimming program Ascot Vale Leisure Centre
11 Mar	Whole School assembly
Sun 15 Mar	Working Bee 10 a.m.- 12 noon (BYO tools please)
16 Mar	School Council and Sub Committee meetings
18 Mar	Author Visit
18 Mar	Zone Swimming carnival Unit 1 & 2 assembly
<b>Sat 21 March</b>	<b>SCHOOL FETE</b>
25Mar	Unit 3 assembly
27 Mar	Parent Rep meeting/ Special Lunch Day
1 April	Unit 4 assembly
3 April	Term 1 ends- 2.30 p.m. dismissal

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

Well done boys and girls at the Swimming Carnival. A lot of team spirit and everyone trying their best in their events was the report from the Queen's Park pool. Thankyou Tania for all the time and effort you put into our participation at the carnival and thank you Michael for your help with the team on the big day. Two

students, Stefan Paporakis and Erin Grierson, have won a place in the zone swimming carnival. Good luck Stefan and Erin and congratulations! Thankyou Wooly, Daniel, Will and Lucia from Unit 4 for your swimming diary entries telling us all about the interesting activities you are doing in your lessons at the Leisure Centre.

Poppy is organising us all and Concert practice is underway. This year we will staging Unit items from

our integrated curriculum topic 'Space' and performing the play 'Planet X'. For your diaries, the concert will be at the Clocktower Theatre in Moonee Ponds on 6 May 2009.

Even though it was a hot day, all Units were outside last Friday on Schools Clean Up day to do some tidying in the yard and along our own streets. Together, we managed to clean up the litter and bag up lots of the leaf debris. Before recess we had made a noticeable difference. Thank you everyone. The Moonee St residents, particularly, were grateful for our work and came out to thank the children personally.

Enjoy your Labour Day long weekend and holiday!  
Joanne Roberts,  
Principal  
roberts.joanne.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

### From the Assistant Principal Take the Premier's Active Families Challenge



Register for the Challenge and you will receive 15 free family visits to YMCA and 15 per cent off at Rebel Sport stores. Complete 30 minutes of activity a day for 30 days between 8 March and 19 April for the chance to win some fantastic prizes plus the chance to win your school up to \$3,000 in sports gear.

It's easy, fun, free and a great way to be healthy and active with your family. Register now!  
<http://www.goforyourlife.vic.gov.au/>

#### Asthma plans and notes to return

A reminder to return all 2009 Asthma Action plans as soon as possible.  
Please also return the Photography and Local Excursion permissions forms as soon as you can.

#### Student Birthdays this week

Happy Birthday to:

Sarah C - Unit 5 - who turns 9 on the 4<sup>th</sup> March  
Shannon H - Unit 5 - who turns 9 on the 6<sup>th</sup> March  
Hamza A - Unit 3 - who turns 10 on the 6<sup>th</sup> March  
Stephanie M - Unit 2 - who turns 6 on the 8<sup>th</sup> March  
Aaron T - Unit 5 - who turns 8 on the 8<sup>th</sup> March  
Nathan C - Unit 4 - who turns 9 on the 8<sup>th</sup> March  
Teagen M - Unit 4 - who turns 10 on the 9<sup>th</sup> March

Have a fantastic week.

Michael Downing, Assistant Principal  
[downing.michael.j@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:downing.michael.j@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## Family Picnic / Unit Information Evening Tuesday TONIGHT (Weather Permitting)

To welcome new families to the school and to have a school community 'get together', all families are invited to pack a picnic tea, spread out a rug and join others in a shared meal on the oval **tonight**. The picnic will begin at 5 p.m. and, throughout the evening, Unit information sessions will be announced. Families are able to attend at the following times:

Unit 1 – 5.30 pm

Unit 2- 6.00 pm

Unit 3 – 6.30 pm

Unit 4 & 5- 7 pm

Unit information sessions will be held in the respective Unit classrooms.

## Swimming Carnival

We were all so nervous wondering when we were going to start the first race, then we heard an announcement saying '9/10 girls freestyle please go to the starting point.' We all started cheering and before we knew it we were starting the 11 girl's freestyle relay. We started well and in the end came fourth. Meg, Georgia and the two of us were grateful but hoped for better. Time went by and we were on our way back to school. Although we had come last in the group of schools we were put in, we did our best!!!



By Amelia and Sheona – Unit 1

## Walking School Bus

Last year, with the help of regular volunteers, we were able to operate a Walking School Bus three days a week. Without any volunteers in Term 4 last year, the bus did not run and left many families without this safe option of getting their child(ren) to school. Can you volunteer for this work? Even just one regular session? Each pair of volunteers means one run for the Walking School Bus. Please let Joanne or Michael know if you can be involved. It would be great to offer this service to families once again.

## Writing This Week

Writing this week comes from two of the fabulous students in U2, Imaan & Michelle.

Michelle has written a re-count of DANCING AROUND THE WORLD, and what a fine piece of work she has produced. Michelle's work has all the elements of a student well on their way to becoming a proficient writer. Ideas are clearly organised, the writing is easy to read and we can hear that Michelle has a clear message to convey to her audience.

The other piece of work comes from Imaan, who is at an earlier stage of development as an author. Imaan is at the copying stage of her writing, she would dictate her message to Bev who would then record it for Imaan to write.

This is an important part of the writing process, students learn to organise their thoughts and then have them recorded. The teacher models writing for the students, demonstrating what a good piece of writing LOOKS like.

Marg.

## Premier's Reading Challenge

It is time again for the PRC. The Challenge is an initiative from the Premiers Office, designed to encourage children to read widely and regularly, students who complete the Challenge will have their names published in THE SUNDAY AGE after Challenge is finished.

As the Challenge generates vast amounts of paper, this year I am going to try a new way of registration for students at AVPS.

I am encouraging Parents to contact me via the internet if they wish their child to participate in the Challenge. To do this, I need permission for them to be involved in the Challenge and also permission for their name to be published in the paper.

Publishing of names is certainly not obligatory, just advise me when you write to me if you don't want your child's name published.

The traditional method of registration, ie, paper, will also be available, however I would prefer to do it on the computer, it is far more efficient and does save quite a bit of paper.

Thank-you,

Marg

blairgannon.margaret.e@edumail.vic.gov.au

## Prep Parent 2010 Information Session

At 7 p.m. on Thursday 30 April, AVPS will be holding an information evening for prospective Prep parents for 2010. Please let your friends and neighbours know of this event or come along yourself if you have another child ready to begin school in 2010. To enrol in school, children must turn 5 on or before 30 April of the year in which they request enrolment.

## Working Bee Sunday 15 March

We have a LOT of leaf debris around the yard, within boundary gutters and along fence lines that needs to be cleared. I am in the process of arranging tree trimming and the removal of some dead trees from the yard and this work should take place shortly. Generally then, on the 15th, we will need some assistance sweeping up leaves, tidying up garden beds and the back block generally. This will ensure all is ready for the School Fete on the following Saturday. **Please come along to help, even for an hour, if you can. Volunteers will need to bring their own gloves and gardening tools. YOUR HELP WOULD BE APPRECIATED.**

Joanne

## Attention All Musicians

Our fete is just around the corner. All bands and individual musicians are invited to perform either on stage or be roaming buskers. If you are interested please contact Maria on 0402 017 178. This is open to all present and former students of AVPS.

## Free Fruit Friday

Free Fruit Friday begins on Friday 06/03/09. AVPS has again received a grant to provide fresh fruit to our students every Friday. I need volunteers to wash, cut and deliver the fruit to the Units. If you are able to spare 30 mins, and would like to be part of a roster, please contact me on 0402 017 178, or meet me at canteen after drop off on Friday.

Thank you for your support.

Maria

## Uniform Shop open at AVPS this Thursday

The next date for the Uniform Shop is Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March between 3.00pm and 4.00pm. To order online, use the PSW website, [www.psw.com.au](http://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.

## Christopher Milne

Due to our busy schedule of events the visit by popular author Christopher Milne has been postponed to Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Please note.

## School Musical Planet X

### What is Planet X?

Planet X is an exciting new musical that the students and staff at Ascot Vale Primary school will be working hard to produce throughout the rest of Term 1 and the beginning of Term 2. We chose this theme to compliment our Integrated Studies topic which is 'Our Place in Space.' We will be working in collaboration with a professional performing arts group called Rock Ed Music. There are fifteen main roles and we thank all of the students who auditioned and congratulate them on their commitment and enthusiasm. Every student in the school will have the opportunity to perform a song with the rest of their unit. There will be a major rehearsal and workshop day in the school hall on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April '09. The final performance will be held at The Clock Tower Centre in Moonee Ponds. Further details and ticket information is forthcoming. Any students, parents or members of the Ascot Vale Primary school community who would like to help should either see Poppy Thorowgood (Unit 4) or Joanne. Any help with rehearsals, costumes, sets or just general organisation would be very appreciated.

Thank you.

Poppea Thorowgood.

### Bulk purchase of solar electricity systems

The Moonee Valley Climate Action Group is looking for residents who want to be part of a bulk purchase of solar electricity systems. This is your opportunity to purchase low-cost solar panels and to reduce your emissions.

For more information please visit

<http://mooneevalleyclimateaction.org> or contact Barbara Hutton from Moonee Valley Climate Action on: Telephone: 9370 3979 Email: [barbarajhutton@hotmail.com](mailto:barbarajhutton@hotmail.com)

## Moonee Valley Kids Social Skills Group

8 Week play based intervention program.  
Fourth year running.

### Topics Include:

- Making and keeping friends
- Conversational skills and body language
- Team work
- Understanding emotions and how to manage them
- Resilience (How to bounce back from adversity)
- Confidence and self-esteem building
- Relaxation and stress management
- Problem solving in social situations
- Group games – how to get involved and get along

Who: 8-15 year olds

Where: After school @ Moonee Ponds West PS

What about the adults: A 2 hour Strategies Evening; reviews the strategies taught and ways of extending the new learning at home. Cost: \$600 including all materials, individual consultation, Strategies Evening and Moonee Valley Kids Strategies Manual. (Medical rebate available with doctor referral).

For more information / program dates, please call Connie Malatsis (Psychologist and Program Facilitator) on 0409 177 557

## OSHC NEWS THIS WEEK

### 'we make kids smile'



Monday – Chinese Walls  
Tuesday - Soccer  
Wednesday – Yoga (AACP)  
Thursday - Soup  
Friday – Basketball (AACP)

We have been having lots of fun at “after care” and now our active aftercare program has started, there is even more fun. On Wednesday we have yoga and on Friday we have basketball, but we will be doing tennis later in the term. So come along and join in the fun and games.

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.