

# ARDEER SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Term 1 - Week 5, 26th February 2026

Principal: Andrea Markham

Assistant Principal: Grant Mussel



### IMPORTANT DATES

#### Weekly Assembly

Each Wednesday at 2:30pm  
John Evans Room

#### Week 7

Labour Day Public Holiday  
Monday 9th March

#### Week 7 and 8

Year 3 and 5: Naplan 2026  
See Compass for information

Friday 20th March  
Harmony Day

#### **Last Day of School**

Thursday 2nd April  
1:30pm finish

*Ardeer South Primary School acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the land the school is located upon, and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.*



Term 1 is off to a great start with so many positive things happening in classrooms.

Now that we have settled into a new school year we are reminded daily that at the heart of everything we do is a commitment to high-quality teaching, strong relationships and a shared belief that every child can grow and succeed.

This year we will continue to focus on strengthening learning outcomes, deepening student engagement and building a safe, inclusive environment where everyone feels known and valued.



Andrea and Grant

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## School News

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### Community Engagement and Parent / Teacher Partnerships

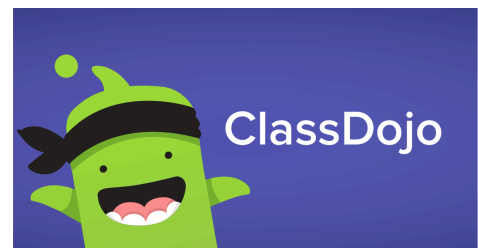


Our Meet the Teacher afternoon was a huge success. A very heartfelt thank you to Their Care for supporting our fundraising efforts and putting on a sausage sizzle for our families. Also a big thank you to the parents who gave up time to help organise things. Our community is what makes us so special.

Our progress is always strongest when we work in partnership.

***Together, we will ensure our students are challenged, supported and inspired to achieve their very best.***

**Class Dojo** connects teachers with students and parents to build amazing classroom communities. Teachers and parents have an open line of communication through the ClassDojo app and students get to showcase their work and share moments with parents throughout the day. ***Please speak to your classroom teacher or the office if you would like help connecting.***



Schools Clean Up Day is coming up on Friday 27 February 2026 and we'd love for you to be part of it!

Our students and educators will be rolling up their sleeves to take part in Schools Clean Up Day. Details for our parents will be posted on Dojo and Compass.

It's a fun, hands-on way for students to learn about caring for the environment while making a real impact in their school grounds and local community.

# BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE



Ardeer South TheirCare

TERM 1 WEEK 5 ⇒ NEWSLETTER ⇐ February 2026

During Growing & Gardening Week and Mini Scientist Week in Outside School Hours Care, children explored nature and science through hands-on activities such as planting herbs, discovering garden insects, creating nature art, and conducting fun experiments like baking soda reactions and floating and sinking tests.



Smile+



**FLIPPIN' FUN**  
**PANCAKE PARTY!**  
**TUESDAY 17 MARCH**

We're mixing up Shrove Tuesday and St. Patrick's Day cheer! We'll be flipping pancakes, enjoying green crafts, making good luck charms, and playing silly games. Join in the fun during after-school care, at no extra cost to families. To book visit [TheirCare.com.au](http://TheirCare.com.au)

Quality Area 6 - Collaborative Partnerships with Families and Communities

We invite your feedback: Are there community connections, cultural events, or skills you would like to see included in our program?



TheirCare's  
**Autumn 2026**  
Holiday Program

**iSpy Kids**

Something exciting is coming this Autumn...

**iSpy Kids!**

Packed with mystery, curiosity and fun filled adventures, it will be one school holiday program you won't want to miss! Bookings open soon...

**CONTACT SERVICE:**

0448 888 187

[ardeersouth@theircare.com.au](mailto:ardeersouth@theircare.com.au)

**TC HEAD OFFICE:**

1300 072 410

[info@theircare.com.au](mailto:info@theircare.com.au)

[www.theircare.com.au](http://www.theircare.com.au)



We encourage as many parents as possible to engage with the service and enquire with TheirCare on how to receive the Child Care Subsidy for your children so that they can access the fun and exciting activities that are offered through this program.

# Doxa Holiday Camps are FREE!

Many of our students express that they would love to be able to go to camp. If this is an opportunity you would like to access for your child please come and see us at the office to assist you in applying.



# CITY HOLIDAY CAMP



 **City Camp**  
7 - 10 April, 2026  
Urban Camp

 **Activities**  
St. Kilda Penguins & Melbourne Zoo  
Comedy & Arcade  
Eureka Skydeck & Movies

 **Transport**  
**Doxa Support Train Transport**  
Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong & Pakenham



\*Scan QR Code for Application Form

**Doxa Holiday Camps are FREE**

Holiday Camps are funded by our amazing sponsors and donors

Phone: (03) 9046 8200   [www.doxa.org.au](http://www.doxa.org.au)   Email: [info@doxa.org.au](mailto:info@doxa.org.au)

## Welcome and Thank You to Our New School Council

**We are thrilled to announce the members of the 2026 Ardeer South Primary School Council!** Our school council plays a vital role in supporting our school community, providing advice on policies, budgets, and strategic planning, and helping to ensure the best possible learning environment for our students.

We warmly welcome our new members and thank them for giving their time, expertise, and commitment to our school. Your contribution helps guide important decisions, supports our school vision, and strengthens the connection between families, staff, and students.

We also take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of outgoing council members. Your dedication and support have been invaluable, and your work has left a positive and lasting impact on our school community.

Together, we look forward to a year of collaboration, innovation, and continued growth, ensuring that Ardeer South remains a place where every child is challenged, supported, and inspired to achieve their very best.



**We sincerely thank our 2026 School Council parent members for their time and commitment to this role and look forward to working with you all.**

Rania Abouhalka (Flynn, Scarlett and Jade)

Stacey Davies (Aurora)

Saffa Dawelbait (Mayas and Mourad)

Lube Lazarevski (Olivia)

Lence Markovski (Lucas and Lana)

Julie Winter (Oliver)

## MATHEMATICS

### **Mathletics: Fun Learning for Everyone!**

At ASPS, we are excited to continue to provide FREE access to Mathletics for our students, an online math platform designed to make learning mathematics fun and engaging for students from Prep to Year 6!

### **What is Mathletics?**

Mathletics is an interactive learning tool that combines games, challenges, and real-world math problems to help students develop their math skills. It's like a math adventure! The platform allows students to practice essential math concepts like addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and much more, all in a playful and rewarding way.

### **Why Mathletics?**

Mathletics offers personalized learning, which means that it adjusts to each student's level and pace. Whether your child is excelling in math or needs a little extra help, Mathletics supports them every step of the way. It also allows students to compete in live challenges, earn points, and even get rewards for their efforts!

### **How Does It Help?**

- Engaging and Fun: Students can explore math concepts through fun games, puzzles, and activities.
- Boosts Confidence: As students complete tasks and earn rewards, they feel a sense of achievement and gain confidence in their math abilities.
- Supports Classroom Learning: Mathletics reinforces what students learn in the classroom, allowing them to practice and improve at their own pace.

### **Mathletics Challenges and Competitions**

Throughout the year, we will host Mathletics challenges and competitions where students can compete for top spots on the leaderboard. It's a great way to encourage friendly competition and celebrate the hard work of our math whizzes!

### **Let's Get Learning!**

We have invested a considerable amount of money into providing this program for our students so strongly encourage all students to explore Mathletics and make the most of this fantastic tool to enhance their math learning. Whether they're working on homework or just having fun with numbers, Mathletics offers endless opportunities to grow!

Happy learning and may the numbers always add up!

## Celebrating Harmony Day at Ardeer South Primary School

At Ardeer South Primary School, Harmony Day is a special opportunity to celebrate the rich cultural diversity that makes our community so vibrant and strong. Our school proudly reflects the many cultures, languages and stories that come together to create a welcoming and inclusive environment for every child.

Harmony Day reminds us that **everyone belongs**. Throughout the day, students will participate in classroom activities that explore identity, respect, inclusion and the importance of standing together against racism. These learning experiences help build empathy, understanding and pride in who we are both as individuals and as a community.

Students are invited to wear **a touch of orange**, the colour of Harmony Day, to show their support for cultural diversity and inclusion. Orange represents respect, acceptance and the freedom for all people to be themselves.

We encourage families to talk with their children about their own cultural backgrounds and the traditions that are important to them. Sharing stories, food, language and experiences strengthens our connection and deepens our appreciation of one another.

At Ardeer South, we are proud to celebrate the many cultures that make our school unique. Together, we continue to build a community where diversity is celebrated, kindness is valued and everyone feels that they truly belong.



***On Friday 20th March we encourage our students to wear cultural dress or Orange as a symbol of cultural unity.***