

# ARDEER SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Term 4 - Week 10, 7th December 2023

**Principal: Andrea Markham**

**Assistant Principal: Olivia Sinclair-Thomson**



### DECEMBER

**7th - Art Centre Excursion 5/6A**

**8th - Art Centre Excursion 5/6B**

**11th - Art Centre all 5/6 students**

**18th - Year 6 Graduation**

**19th- Year 6 BBQ**

**20th- Final day of term - 1:30 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.***



In this edition:

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2 weeks to go!

Always things to celebrate!

As always we continue to deliver a rigorous learning program despite our students being tired after a long term.

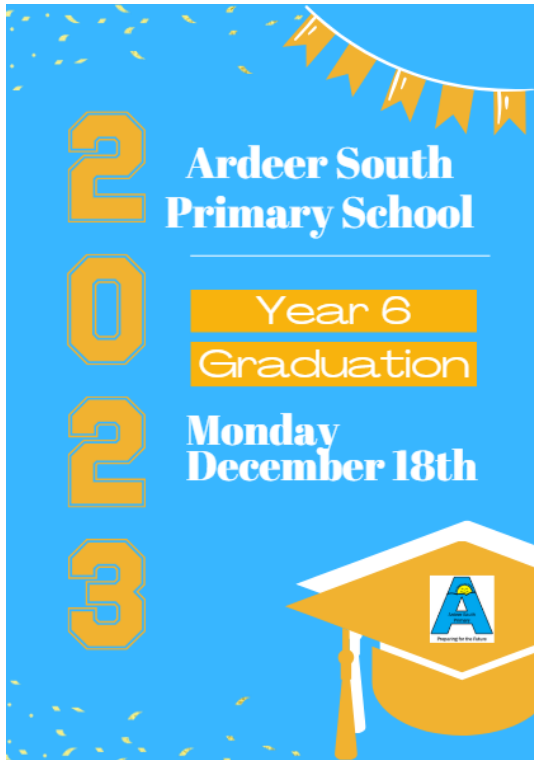
Attendance data has been outstanding, keep your children coming to school every day - only 10 school days to go!

This school is as great as it is because of the home/school partnership. I am always grateful for how hard our parents work to support everything we do for "our" kids.

Hoping you are all enjoying the beautiful weather and staying safe.

Andrea.

## 2023 Year 6 Graduation



On **Monday the 18th of December** our year six students will be graduating. The night will begin at Sunshine Social BBQ for dinner, commencing at 5:00pm.

Students will need to be dropped off at school by 4:30pm. We will travel to Sunshine Social by bus or you can bring your child directly to the venue. Parents are welcome to attend the dinner, but will need to purchase their own meals. The dinner will be pre-ordered for catering purposes, to ensure the night runs smoothly.

The bus will return at 6:10pm to Ardeer South Primary School and the ceremony will begin in the John Evan's Room at 6:30pm. The night will conclude at 8:00pm, with the opportunity for photos afterwards.

**If you have not already done so please hand in your RSVP to the office or your child's teacher.**

---

### School Council Thank You!

Once a month a dedicated group of parents meet with us to discuss school improvement, finances, fundraising, maintenance and general school governance. They represent the parent community in a more formal role at school council meetings.

I sincerely thank our 2023 council members, Vu, Rania, Nancy, Bianca, Julie, Tina and Olivia for giving up their time and working with me in this very important role.



---

## Inclusive Schools Fund

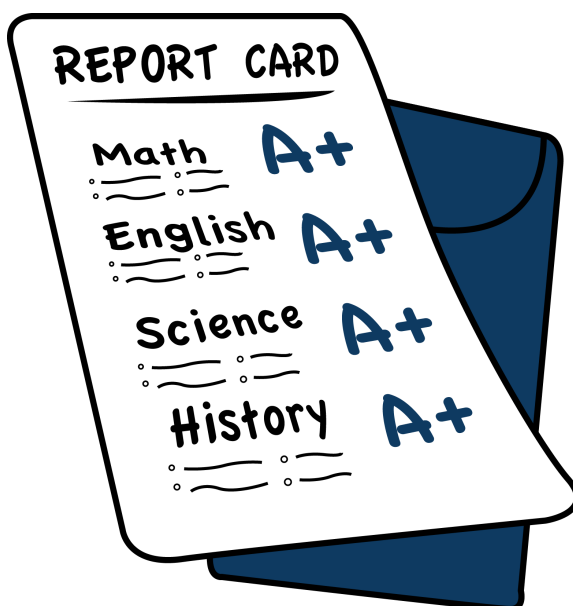
Earlier in the year Olivia worked tirelessly to complete an application for the State Governments Inclusive School Fund. The application was open to schools to apply for funds to build inclusive play areas, sensory gardens and outdoor learning areas to support students with disabilities and additional needs.

37 schools have received funding and I was informed today that our application was successful. Straight from the email from Sarah Connolly MP is this quote:

“As part of this program, your school will receive a grant of **\$276,492.00** to go towards creating a brand new Inclusive Sensory Playground.”

The Inclusive Schools Fund supports small innovative building projects that make a big difference to meeting the educational and social needs of all children.

We are so grateful for the work Olivia put into our application and for Sarah Connolly MP who continues to support the work of schools to make a big difference to meeting the educational and social needs of all children.



Reports are now available on Compass and a hard copy will be coming home with your child today or tomorrow.

Don't forget to book a parent teacher interview appointment to discuss your child's progress with their teacher for next week. You can do this via the Compass App or by calling the office or messaging the teacher directly for a time.

## 2024 Staffing

As always in schools, teachers move around at the end of a year.

The following staff will be leaving us at the end of 2023. We wish them well in their new schools and sincerely thank them all for their work at ASPS.

**Kimberly Tran** - has accepted a position at St Albans Meadows Primary School

**Emily Chambers** - has accepted a position at Keysborough Primary School

**Olivia Sinclair-Thomson** - has accepted a position at Tarneit P-9 College

We have conducted interviews for various positions and the successful candidates are:

- **Tina Muja** - Classroom teacher position. Tina is a very active member of the ASPS community being a member of school council, parent and casual relief teacher. We welcome her to a permanent position.
- **Thomas O'Reilly** - Classroom teacher position full time. Thomas is a graduate teacher who will join us in 2024 in his very first teaching position. We look forward to helping him build his capacity as a classroom teacher with his own class.
- **Kristy Prevorsek** will join us as a learning tutor in 2024. Kristy comes to us with many years experience as a classroom teacher.
- Learning Specialist - **Donna Swain** has been appointed to the position of Learning Specialist with a focus on Disability and Inclusion and Student Wellbeing.
- Assistant Principal - **Grant Mussel** who is our current Learning Specialist will take on the role of Assistant Principal. Grant is already a much respected member of our leadership team and school community.

Children will meet their 2024 teacher next week and spend some time with their new class on Tuesday 12th December.

### 2024 Class Teachers

Foundation A - Ms **Svetlana Bojadzievski**

1/2 A - Miss **Elise Szacsuri**

1/2 B - Mrs Tina Muja / Ms **Melissa Rosini**

3/4 A - Mr **Michael Osborne**

3/4 B - Mr Thomas O'Reilly

5/6 A - Mr **Steven Christoforou**

5/6 B - Ms Ruth Cronin



## WELLBEING AND BEHAVIOUR NEWS

### Student of the Week and Attendance Awards - Week 10



Well done everyone : )

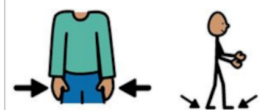
### SWPBS - School Wide Positive Behaviour

#### **School Wide Focus - We Keep Our Hands and Feet To Ourselves**

Our last social skills focus for the team will be on Keeping our Hands and Feet to Ourselves. This is a very important social skill that students need to work hard on, particularly in the yard at recess and lunch. It is tempting when we are little to respond to frustrations with hits and kicks, but this is not appropriate at school (or in the wider community). We teach students to speak to adults if they are feeling frustrated with others.



my hands and feet



I keep my hands and feet to myself.

#### Dojo Shop

The Dojo Shop is BACK - second to last day of Term - 19th of December. If you have earned Dojo points this term, we have something special for you!!



#### Wellbeing Contacts on the Holidays

The holidays are almost here! We know that they can be a time of great joy, but also a time of potential stress and hardship. If you need support, please reach out to the services below for assistance.

**Lifeline** - Free Confidential Counselling - 13 11 14

**Parent Line** - Free Confidential Counselling for Parents - 13 22 89

**Orange Door** - Supporting families experiencing family violence - 1800 271 046

**Brimbank Mental Health and Wellbeing** - 9448 5522

## Language Learning at ASPS

We are undertaking a consultative process which is exploring our options for our language program at Ardeer South. It is a requirement that schools must provide a language program for students from Foundation to Year 10.

Our community is made up of students from various language backgrounds. I welcome you to have input into our commitment to a language program that benefits all students. Over the past few years we have had difficulties employing a long term teacher of Italian and we are now exploring options to teach Auslan as our additional language.

***We have investigated the teaching of an Auslan program through engaging the services of Auslan Education Services and share the following information with you:***

Learning Auslan is now incorporated into all kindergarten programs and has many benefits for both deaf and hearing children.

Sign language can:

- enhance children's educational and personal development
- increase memory retention and motion processing
- stimulate brain development and mental flexibility
- increase enjoyment in communicating for both hearing and deaf children.

Benefits of learning Auslan include:

- development of neural pathways and cognitive processes unique to using a visual language
- capacity to communicate with peers, friends and family members who use Auslan
- improved capacity for visual-gestural communication
- intellectual interest, engagement and personal challenge
- opportunities for meaningful cross-curricular integration, for example through the use of information and communication technology (ICT)
- access to alternative ways of thinking and expressing ideas
- opportunities to develop and reinforce social justice values
- awareness of deafness as difference rather than as disability
- development of interpersonal skills, access to wider social networks and more diverse experience
- appreciation of the notions of Deafhood, cultural identity and community membership
- increased understanding of inclusion and diversity
- acquisition of a portable mode of communication that involves learning strategies for gesture that may have international, cross-cultural application

- increased understanding of language acquisition, language systems and learning processes
- enhanced development of overall literacy capabilities
- accessibility for some non-traditional learners, students with disability and those who are primarily visual learners.

**As always I value community consultation and it is critical when we are considering replacing our existing language program with a program in a new language. This is your opportunity to provide feedback on a possible change of language. Speak to your child also about their preference. If you have not already done so please let the office know via the form that was sent home your preferred language. School Council will be making a decision regarding this next week.**