

ALGESTER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Creating Futures... Together

Our School Values - RESPECT:

- Self
- Others
- Place



PO BOX 5121, ALGESTER, QLD, 4115, Australia

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Phone: (07) 3712 5111

Calendar Of Events

DATE		EVENT
15-Feb	Wed	Snr Band Rehearsals commence 7.45am
		School Leader Investiture -2pm
		E Newsletter 2
		Snr Parade 2.30pm
16-Feb	Thurs	Beginner Strings instrument Care/Maintance 5.30pm - AMAC
		Snr String lessons commence - 7.30am Music Block
20-Feb	Mon	School Photos - Prep to Yr 5
		No Jnr parade
21-Feb	Tues	School Photos - Yr 6 & Specialist Groups
		Yr 1 Toohey Forest Excursion
22-Feb	Wed	Yr 1 Toohey Forest Excursion
		Snr Band Rehearsals 7.45am
		Snr Parade 2.30pm
		Yr 2 Dance Fever payment closes
27-Feb	Mon	Jnr Parade 2.30pm
1-Mar	Wed	Snr Band Rehearsal 7.45am
		E Newsletter 3
		Snr Parade 2.30pm
		Yr 6 Camp payment closes
3-Mar	Fri	Yr 1 Toohey Forest Excursion
		Clean Up Australia Day
6-Mar	Mon	Jnr Parade 2.30pm
7-Mar	Tues	Yr 2 Dance Fever 2-2.40pm
8-Mar	Wed	Small Events Team - 9am
		Snr Band Rehearsal 7.45am
		Snr Parade 2.30pm
13-Mar	Mon	Halogen Leadership Conference for School Captains
		Jnr Parade 2.30pm
14-Mar	Tues	Principal's Afternoon Tea - 2.15pm AMAC
		Yr 2 Dance Fever 2-2.40pm
		P & C Meeting @ 7pm in Staffroom
15-Mar	Wed	Snr Band Rehearsal 7.45am

		QSO Excursion Jnr 5&6 Band & Strings
		E Newsletter 4
		Snr Parade 2.30pm

Closing Payment Dates

Closing Dates

- Year 1 Toohey Forest - Wednesday 15th February
- Year 2 Dance Fever - Wednesday 22nd February
- Year 6 Camp - Wednesday 15th March

Payment Options : Cash, EFTPOS (Debit/Credit) available **Tues, Wed, thurs 8am-10am only**

If paying cash please supply the correct money in a sealed envelope.

Internet Banking Details:

Algerster Primary School General Account

BSB: 064-159

Acc: 00090165

Refernece: Please use students surname plus initial and the name of the incursion

Bpoint:

Please refer to the invoice emailed from the school. Details will be on the bottom left hand corner of the invoice.

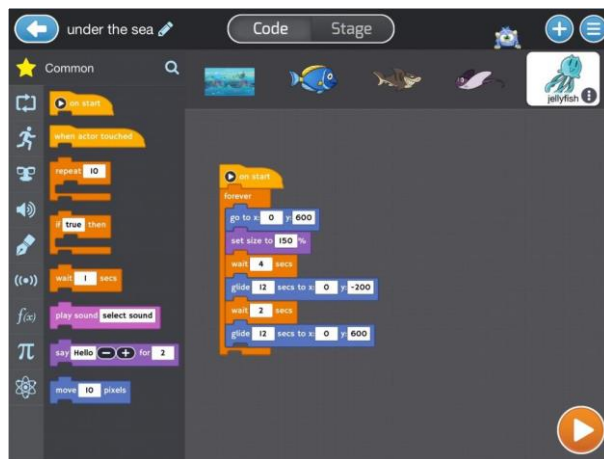
Newsletter from the Principal, 15 Feb, 2017

Settled start to the new year: I am just so delighted in the way in which our students have settled into their new classes for the year and commenced their learning. Our new programs in Prep are doing very well and our school wide Reading Program has begun in earnest. Our reading intervention programs have also started for struggling readers and the online project for advanced reader is engaging selected students in Year 3 & 5. Our extension programs for robotics and coding have also begun. Our BYOD classes are also up and running well with the new parent management of BYO Devices leading to much faster setup times. Thank you for helping us with all of the arrangements that are necessary to begin the new year.

Maintenance Projects: I have approved the following projects that will occur soon at a cost of approximately \$44 000:

- *U Block:* Replacement of vinyl and carpets.
- *Toilet blocks, Under Covered Area & Staff near Library:* Replacement of seamless flooring.
- *Hall:* Repair line marking. New varnish for stage floor.
- *T Block:* Replacement of vinyl flooring.
- *Music Block:* Sound proofing.
- *V Block:* Replacement of carpet tiles.
- *Tennis Court:* Pressure clean of surface.

Some future projects we are working on include replacement of the cricket practice nets and recovering of the surfaces, gutter cleaning, security upgrade and air conditioning replacements.



Coding at Algester: We've commenced the rollout of the teaching of coding at the school. We will begin this formally in Years 5 & 6 but it will also be introduced informally as teachers experiment with coding and various Apps that are available. The Robotics work we do in Years 2&3 also involves simple coding. The school has reviewed a number of platforms and decided on the iOS App, Tynker to introduce coding. This App is also available through a computer browser so you can code at home without an iOS Device. The students who have experienced the initial lesson have handled the skills very well and enjoyed experimenting with adapting the code for themselves. It won't be long before they will be creating code too. The attached photo shows the code for the movement of a jellyfish on an ocean backdrop. We will doing this with our first two Year 5 classes next week. Coding is the new frontier in education and we are trying our best to keep abreast of developments. Tynker is based on the popular Scratch software so should be familiar to those children who have already experimented with some code. I would like to run some competitions for our students in the future to encourage them to push themselves to create new code.

NAPLAN Online: All schools will be expected to deliver NAPLAN tests for Years 3 & 5 online in 2019. Like all schools, we are preparing our network for these tests and part of this involves ensuring our BYOD devices are also compliant. We have established new minimum requirements for children commencing in a BYOD class this year that will allow us to comply. Most of the previous devices will still comply but iPad Minis will not. I attended a meeting last week to hear about the rollout of NAPLAN online and was intrigued with some of the research findings during their pilots over the past two years. They found that generally students did as well or better using NAPLAN Online compared to pen and paper tests. They

also found that students generally did better on their own personal devices rather than school pcs or other school devices. Consequently, our BYOD classes, I believe, are positioning our students for the best possible performance on these future tests.

Parent Information Evenings: Many thanks to the numerous parents who attended these meetings in the past fortnight. We have a laminated A3 placement outlining the main English & Maths strategies for your child's year level to go home soon so you can help out at home.

From The Deputy Principals

JUNIOR PARADE CANCELLED NEXT WEEK. Due to the school photos next Monday there will be no Junior Parade

YEAR 1 EXCURSION TO TOOHEY FOREST

The Year 1 students will be heading to Toohey Forest Environmental Education Centre in the next couple of weeks for their excursion. Students are asked to bring a litter free lunch (a lunch that contains no throwaway packaging). The bus will depart the school at 9am and return at 3pm. The students will need to be at their classrooms at 8:30am for roll marking and organisation.

Dates:

Tuesday 21 st February	1CW and 1M
Wednesday 22 nd February	1J and 1N
Friday 3 rd March	1I and 1W



PREP PLAYGROUND UPDATE

The new turf will be laid around the new playground and the shade structure constructed

at the end of this week. Almost finished!

School Captain Investiture

Congratulations to the school leaders who have received their leadership badges on the Investiture parade today. The following positions were awarded with badges of office at this ceremony: School Captains; Arts Captains; Music Captains; Performing Arts Captains; Library Captains; House Captains of Banksia, Cassia, Hovea and Waratah; Arts Ambassadors, Library Monitors and Student Council representatives. Students who have been selected in the Peer Mediation Program will be presented with their badges on parade in week 6.

Students who are in the Instrumental Music Band program from year 4 to year 6 will need to ensure that they have their Performance Uniform by Tuesday 21st February for the school Photos. Students in the Instrumental Music Strings program will need to purchase their performance Uniform if they are in years 4 to year 6. The performance shirts can be purchased from the Uniform shop (online or in person) before Tuesday for the photos.



Year 6 Leadership Shirts

I have a very limited number of Leadership shirts left for students to purchase in the following sizes:

1 x size 22 .

If you would like to purchase this shirt please bring the correct money to the office money window on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. It will be a first in basis and once they have been sold there will be no more ordered.

The white Leadership shirts certainly look very smart but can begin to look dirty if they are not

kept clean. The secret to keeping the clean is to soak them in a product such as Napisan or equivalent. Soaking them for 30mins each week before washing will keep them looking like new.

Prep Buddies

Year 6 classes have been paired up with their prep classes to form Prep buddies. Every few weeks the year 6 students will visit their Prep buddies to form caring and positive relationships. The Prep Buddy Program has been a very successful program in our school and both the year 6 students and the prep Students benefit greatly from this regular interaction. The students complete a number of activities together such as reading, writing, art, playground play, and maths activities.



Dress Code

I would like to give a quick reminder for the students of the expectations of the school dress code and highlight the issues that we are currently seeing with students not complying with the dress code.

Shoes - black sandshoes, Velcro or lace up with black laces

Socks – white or green socks – NO BLACK SOCKS

Hair – shoulder length hair should be tied up and off the face. There should be no fringe pieces or wispy lengths hanging down. This is to prevent head lice. The hair should not be dyed and there should be no extreme haircuts like mohawks, tracks, rat's tails (unless they are tied up).

Nail Polish – Only clear nail polish is acceptable and fake nails are not suitable. If students have a function on the weekend it is

expected that they will remove any nail polish or fake nails before returning to school.

Earrings – Should be plain sleepers and studs only.

Necklaces and Bangles – There should be no bracelets other than a medical alert bracelet or a watch. There should be no necklaces other than Religious or cultural necklaces and they should be hidden under the shirt so they are not a choking hazard.

Thank you for assisting us to keep the appearance of our students to a high standard and to ensure that safety standards are met.

Developing Independence In Primary School

Developing independence in primary school

By Michael Grose

Practical ideas for parents to encourage real independence in children.



Your goal as a parent should be for your child to be completely self-managing by the end of primary school. That is, he can get himself and others up each morning; make his own breakfast; prepare his own schoolbag; collect his own school uniform; put any notes under your nose to be signed and returned to school; and so it goes on. Now, that doesn't mean that kids will do all this all the time, because other factors come into play such as busy schedules and early starts; children will need some assistance at times. However, it's good to keep

in mind that children, when left to their own devices, generally do remarkably well at organising their daily tasks. Sometimes they just need the opportunity. Here are four practical ways to develop real independence in primary school-aged children:

1. Involve them in mealtimes Mealtimes are the fulcrum around which healthy families operate. A shared meal is more than food. It's a ritual that binds people together; it's a vehicle for parents to influence their children; and it's an expression of love and care. It is also fundamental to children's wellbeing because there is a strong correlation between good mental health in young people and those who regularly share a family meal. Mealtimes also offer plenty of opportunities for children to help including running errands, preparing the meal, setting the table, clearing the table, packing the dishwasher and other jobs. There's something for everyone!

2. Use pocket money to develop independence A regular allowance is a fabulous way to promote real independence in children. Start in lower primary school and gradually increase their allowance the older they become. Importantly, you need to increase the areas that their allowance covers. For instance, in lower primary school a child's pocket money might go towards the purchase of some sweets and one or two other items each week. However, in middle primary school it might increase to cover the cost of one or two lunch orders each week, their bus money and some treats. In later primary school it could even cover some of their clothing purchases as well. The important thing is not to cover for kids if, for instance, they don't budget appropriately and run out of money for school-canteen lunches. They can either make their own lunches at home or perhaps borrow from a sibling and repay out of their next allowance. Pocket money used well is a fantastic way to develop independence in kids.

3. Look after pets It's a quirk of life that most children want a pet, but they just don't want to look after it in the long term. Many kids discover that following the initial flush of enthusiasm looking after a pet can be a grind – walking the family pooch, cleaning out the guinea-pig cage, or feeding the family feline. But pet care offers priceless lessons in the development of grit, responsibility and nurturance – all necessary attributes for independent success.

4. Walk, ride or take public transport to

school The opportunity to go to school on your own devices was a luxury that previous generations enjoyed. While it may have seemed at the time like something to be endured rather than enjoyed, most people I discuss this matter with look back with fondness and nostalgia. For most people it meant freedom, friendship and fun. For a short time each day kids experienced a delicious type of freedom away from both teachers and parents – a time to muck around, dawdle and mess around with mates. It also gave kids some familiarity with their neighbourhood.

It's well established that currently more children are driven to school than ride or walk, which denies children the same opportunity for friendship, fun and freedom. Busy schedules, less child-friendly neighbourhood layouts and working parents are just some of the reasons that prevent kids walking to school. If possible, look for ways to allow your child to get to school on their own. It's fantastic for their independence and wellbeing. If children are too young, walk or ride with them some of the way until they are old enough and skilled enough to make the trip without you.

The age of opportunity Children in this stage have an outward orientation and are exploring their place in the world. This is an age and stage for greater neighbourhood exploration, for taking on real responsibility and for developing personal confidence and efficacy before adolescence starts.

Music Matters

CHOIR: Enrolment forms, loan shirt forms and the \$10 payment for choir is now due. In order for students to get their loan choir shirt before photo day, please send in these forms and the payment as soon as possible. All payments must go to the office directly.

All choristers need a display folder for their sheet music to be placed in. Should a student be away on choir day, an e-mail would be greatly appreciated. My e-mail address is ajeev1@eq.edu.au

A reminder that junior and senior choir photos will be taken at 1pm on Tuesday 21/ 2 in the hall. Students are to wear their green shorts/skirts (no dresses), and choir shirts

BAND NOTES:

Beginner Band students enjoyed their first introductory lesson with Mr. Cosic last week. Several students have paid their levy, returned their loan forms, and have now been allowed to take their loan instruments home.



BEGINNER STRINGS KICK-START

WORKSHOP: Congratulations to Ms. Williams and the Beginner Strings students on their hard work during the kick-start workshop last Thursday. Students spent the day having an introductory first lesson. This culminated in a brief “Show-and-Tell” for parents and year 2 students. Well done to all students – it was a big day with lots of information given. The concert was a good one to have done!

Lessons and Rehearsals – Please note there is a change of days for EVERYONE (starting Week 5 – Monday 20 Feb)

Monday and Thursday lessons and rehearsals will be swapped around ie. If you had a rehearsal on a Monday morning it will now be on a Thursday morning. If you had a lesson on a Monday it will now be on a Thursday. If you have a lesson and a rehearsal on a Thursday your day is now Monday.

Monday 20th Feb – Senior String rehearsal (please arrive at 7:30am for tuning and setup). Lessons for Year 5 & 6 students.

Thursday 23rd Feb – String Orchestra rehearsal (please arrive at 7:30am for tuning and setup). Lessons for Year 3 & 4 students.

This is due to a sporting clash nothing to do with the string program – we have the setup planned early in the year but it seems that this

year there is a clash.

Apologies to all families for these changes. We know how hard you work in order to make commitments to out of school hours activities. It is a shame for everyone that we had started our planning and have had to change it. Any concerns about the change please make contact with Penny Williams (pwill8@eq.edu.au) or Mrs Roseneder.

Remember this will start next week Monday 20th February 2017.

Reminder to all string students that they are to bring to lesson 3 things:

- 1) instrument
- 2) homework book
- 3) all music for lesson and rehearsals. Please remember to name cases and texts.

Thanks to all for a smooth start to the year. Any concerns please see me on a Monday or a Thursday or email Penny Williams: pwill8@eq.edu.au

INSTRUMENT CARE WORKSHOP FOR BEGINNERS: Please be reminded that there will be an "Instrument Care" workshop on Thursday 16/2 in the AMAC at 5.30pm for Beginner Strings students and their parents. There is no need for students to bring their instrument – please just bring yourselves.

MUSIC ACHIEVERS:

Congratulations to Alyssa Wong (5T) who recently did her AMEB (Australian Music Exam Board) exams and did extremely well:

1. High distinction in theory (Grade 1)
2. Honours in Music Practice (Grade 3)

Alyssa was also the recipient of the Classroom Music award for year 3's in 2016. She plays the piano and is also a member of our strings program.



Coding In Years 5 & 6

Students from Year 5 T & R learnt about some aspects of coding using the iPad friendly App, Tynker last week. They discovered how to create and move objects around a screen and how to place them precisely using a grid system. They had so much fun and you can expect them to explore a lot more when they take their devices home! All of our Year 5 & 6 students will learn about coding this year using personal or school iPads.

Robotics In Year 4

Our Year 4 students this year have been introduced to our new EV3 Robotic kits. The children get to build small robots and then program them remotely with their iPads. We have invested significant funds in the purchase of 16 EV3 kits and new iPads for each one to facilitate this program. The App is also available freely for students with their own iPads. The increased use of robots in the jobs means that our students may one day require the skills to make these machines work in business in industry environments. The skills we teach them today are for the jobs of the

future that may not even exist today.

Principal's Afternoon Tea

Congratulations to the following students who received a Principal's Afternoon Tea award Tuesday 14th February:

Mia Zia; Cayden Bain; Jameson Heselwood; Ariana Cheng; Liana Johnson; Zoey Molina; Lily Raccanello; Isaiah Naniseni; Leva Jessop; Jeong Yoon Chae; Olivia Beaumont; Chloe Koh; Takeru Smith; Kayla Cranwell; Sophie Kelty; Harry Fidler; Nevalia Ashby; Felix Wei; Tara Clarkson; Cameron Napiza; Bridget Williams; Anyeith Akoubeny; Jaylen Huber; Leo Macklin; Jeremiah Atoa; Samuel Croasdale; Karl Canan; Charles Cooke; Ciara Lehane; Anthony Fellowes; Atu Letalu; Mia Walpole; Jaidan Bo; Tex Bland; Samuel Hector; Shaun Murty; William Bartlett; Sam Cormack; Chloe Angell



Awards

Jnr Parade Awards



Congratulations to the following

students who received an award for their good work at Junior Parade

Monday 30th Jan:

Darryl; Xavier; Cai; Jessica; Matthew; Addison; Coen; Kye; Victor; Liyana; Elise; Elyse; Thomas; Amiah; Jared; Shlok; Lija; Locki; Jasmine; Clare; Jayden; Jade; Jeramie; Holly; Jasmin; Oliver; Zane; Jack; Jameson; Henry; Lusia; Dhyana; Jasper; Zahli; Jax; Ruby

Monday 6th February:

Skylah; Hope; Kayla; Hailee; Emily; Jarvis; Jack; Fiona; Albert; Jemima; Navnoor; Aarav; Harry; Paige; Joseph; Marcus; Molly Rose; Joshua; Aleah; Tia; Mace; Max; Olivia; Eladyoh; Charlie; Hyla; Noah; Cherry; Hayden;

Silia; Liam; Jessica; Henrik; Gurseerat; Aylah

Monday 13th February:

Madison; Rylan; Tiakina; Ezekiel; Hannah; Malachi; Heidi; Isabella; Ben; Nevalia; Keaton; Elise; Phoebe; Jacob; Yolanda; Dylan; Tammy; Karma-Ann; Jayden; Kaien; Jayda; Ava; Aloysius; Manaia; Summer; Isabella; Jessica; Ezekel; Ella; Travis; Stella; Sophi; Hendrix; Lilly; Brynn

Senior Parade



Congratulations to the following

students who received awards for positive behaviour and Senior Parade on:

Wednesday 1st February:

Year 3: Billi; Tamika; Isabelle; Max; Chelsea; Noah; Daniel; Layla-Rose

Year 5: Maya; Duka; Emily; Kyran; Toby

Community News

Arrows Softball Club

WINTER SOFTBALL COMPETITION.

THE ALGESTER ARROWS SOFTBALL CLUB, ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL CLUBS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF BRISBANE, IS HOLDING A SERIES OF SIGN ON DAYS IN THE LOCAL AREA, EACH SUNDAY MORNING COMMENCING ON SUNDAY 19TH FEBRUARY. WE CATER FOR SCHOOL AGE BOYS AND GIRLS, AS WELL AS OLDER GROUPS. THE CLUB IS ABLE ACCEPT "GET STARTED" VOUCHERS IN FULL PAYMENT OF REGISTRATION FEES. PLEASE CONTACT THE CLUB FOR MORE DETAILS BY PHONING LUKE ON 0458881857 OR MARSHALL ON 32732075, OR BY EMAIL AT arrowssoftball@icloud.com.

Girl Guides

ALGESTER GIRL GUIDES

Vacancies available in our 5-9yr Tuesday Unit

Please contact Lyndie for more information

guidespinkee@gmail.com

AR Development

BRONZE

Zarrafa's Coffee Calamvale

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