

St. Albans Primary School



Important Dates

Monday 10th June –
Queens's Birthday-
Public Holiday

Friday 14th June –
Cyber Safety
information session
2.20-3.20

Wednesday 26th June:
Three Way
Conferences,
Community BBQ
Student Free Day

Friday 28th June: Last
day of Term 2 –
students dismissed at
1:30pm

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Community,

This week on Tuesday Mrs Quigley and I were at the Regional Principals' Forum in Melbourne. The focus for this forum was 'Leading learning for excellence'. We had the opportunity to listen to international education experts.

Mr Mazzeo, Mrs Rodgers, and Ms Tran have been participating in the Maths and Science specialist program run by the Education Department. Our involvement in this important program will help the teachers and Education Support staff with teaching Mathematics and Science.

The students have been enjoying the lunchtime activities. This term it included Chess in the library on Fridays, due to it being popular we will continue this next term.

As the colder months are upon us, just a reminder that students need to wear their school uniform which includes a windcheater or bomber jacket with the school logo. If the children are wearing t-shirts they may put a white, black or yellow skivvy underneath for extra warmth. There is also a black pinafore available for girls at the office. Children are allowed to bring a coat or jacket from home to wear to and from school and in the playground. Uniforms can be purchased from the office. If you need assistance with purchasing uniforms please see me.

Don't forget our Three Way Conferences' will be held on Wednesday 26th June with our community BBQ. Please make sure you have filled out your preferred time slot and hand it back to the teacher or the office.

Just a reminder about our swimming program that will start in the first two weeks of term 3. Please ensure you have handed in your note and paid your deposit if your child is interested in participating.

Finally, a reminder that this Monday is a public holiday and no students are required at school. Enjoy the long weekend!

Joanne Richmond



PREP NEWS

The prep students have been having fun practising their reading skills through purposeful reading activities. Well done!



5/6 NEWS

A motivational day yesterday where the 5/6 leaders attended the Network Student Leadership Day held at University Park Primary School. Public figure John Coutis spoke about being a motivated leader in a school community.



LITERACY NEWS – READING NEWS

Helping your child work out difficult words

When your child begins to read to you, they will often have difficulty with long or tricky words. It is important to give your child time to work out difficult words themselves. This helps develop their reading skills.

You might, however, help them if they are stuck by asking questions like these.

- Look at the picture. What word makes sense?
- Look at the picture. What object can you see in the picture that might start with that letter?
- What letter (or letters) does the word start with? What sound does that letter (or letters) make?
- What letters are in the middle of the word? What sound do these letters make?
- What letter (or letters) does the word end with? What sound does that letter (or letters) make?
- Can you put these sounds together to make a word?

Another good strategy is to ask your child how they worked out the word. This helps reinforce reading strategies they learn from you and from school.

Book Chat

Discussing the content and meaning of books is an important part of reading. Chat about the book before, during and after reading, and encourage your child to share their ideas and to ask questions about the book.

Here are some questions you can ask before, during and after reading the book:

- Look at the cover. What do you think this book might be about?
- How would you describe the character at the beginning of the story?
- How does the place the book is set in make you feel?
- What is happening in the pictures?
- What do you think is going to happen next?
- Why might a character have done this? What would you do in the same situation?
- What was your favourite character in the story? Why did you like that character?
- What was your favourite part of the book?
- Can you retell the story in your own words?

Making the most of screen Time

You can use the same questions you might ask your child during Book Chat (see above) to discuss TV programs (such as cartoons) or films that you watch together. Understanding visual media is a key element of your child's literacy.

There are also a number of great games on the internet to help engage your child in reading.

These games include

- Phonics games that improve reading and letter awareness. Phonic involves sounding out individual sounds in a word, and then putting these sounds together to make the word
- Grammar, punctuation and spelling games
- Vocabulary games.

COMMUNITY HUB NEWS



What's happening in the Hub

Information sessions:

This month, we have held several information sessions for parents from Centrelink, HepVic and Victoria University Students discussing about Domestic Family Violence. Up and coming sessions will be about Healthy Eating from the Waterwell Project, and Cyber Safety. Please see Hang if you have any questions



Knitting Club:

Our knitting club had commenced for 2 weeks. Thank you Ruth, for guiding us for our first sessions. We aim to turn our box of wool into useful blankets for winter. Hope you can join us on Thursday afternoons, 2pm onwards with afternoon tea provided.



Gardening

Some leaves are starting to pop up in our veggie garden, thanks to lots of rain in the last few weeks. We will be watering the garden beds at lunch times again to feed the vegetables. Look out for Hang with her watering cans, she can do with some help.



Online Cyber Safety

Today we held a session for online Cyber safety for the parents. It was a very informative session teaching the parents how to protect the children against online bullying and also to teach which apps are suitable for their children and at what age. If you need any information on the todays session please see Hang.

