

2021 Parent Information

Dear Parents,

Year 6 Teaching Team

Jack Powell

Leah Macdonald

Luke Nisbet

PYP At Aspendale Primary School:

- We are now a fully authorised and accredited IB World School.
- This year we will work through six units of inquiry in a non-linear order!

PYP Program of inquiry

T1	T1 & T2	T2	T3	T3 & T4	T4
How We Express Ourselves (specialist unit - Legacy/art project)					
Where we are in place and time	Sharing the Planet	How the world works	How we organise ourselves	How we express ourselves	Who We Are
The economy and the environment are impacted by human migration.	Living things adapt to survive in their environment	Humans use and consume energy.	Economic decisions provide opportunities	Specialist Unit	Transitions affect people's lives

Student-Led Conferences:

- Student-Led Conferences will take place again in 2021. Students will be setting goals and reflecting upon their learning in preparation for them.
- Conferences are a valuable time to discuss and celebrate your child's learning with your child and their teacher.

- Being aware of what they have learnt and what they need to learn next makes them powerful learners.

E-mail communication with Parents/Staff Agreement:

- Each year level will send a fortnightly update with year level information and news
- Emails from parents will be responded to between **8am - 5.30pm, Monday to Friday**. Teachers who receive emails from parents over the weekend will endeavour to respond by 5.30pm Monday.

Take in/Take out at APS:

- Students are to take any litter home that was brought to school
- Please encourage students to bring nude food (in reusable containers or packaging)
- Our aim is to try to reduce our footprint, and schools are statistically mass producers of waste. The school will dispose of anything that can go through council recycle bins or that can be composted.

Student Absences

- It is important for your child to be at school as much as possible
- Lessons start at 9:00am so it is important to be on time. If you are late, please sign your child in at the office
- There will be times when your child may be away due to illness or other reasons. We need a written explanation of their absence. Parents can email this or send a note
- If your child will be away for an extended absence of a week or more (eg. a holiday), please see your classroom teacher who can prepare a Student Absence Learning Plan

Class Essential Agreements

- Each class/year group has made an Essential Agreement
- These are the values, goals and ways in which the classroom will run

Student Learning Plans

- To assist with the Student-Led Conferences, every student is regularly setting goals and reflecting upon their achievements. This allows them and us to identify their individual needs and cater for them within the classroom.

Excursions

- This year all students are required to have paid the excursion levy. This is required in order to attend any excursion or incursion
- Please see your child’s teacher or the office staff if you need to discuss this payment
- Excursions and/or incursions will be scheduled throughout the year
- This year please use QKR to complete the permission form for excursions

Specialist Classes

- Our specialist timetable is finalised and students will visit our amazing specialist teachers on the following days:

● Class	● Monday ● (1:50pm-3:30pm)	● Wednesday ● (9am - 10:40am)	● Year 5/6 ● Sport
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● 6M	● PE & Chinese	● Visual Arts & Performing Arts	● Friday
● 6N	● Visual Arts & Performing Arts	● PE & Chinese	
● 6P	● Performing Arts & PE	● Chinese & Visual Arts	

- Our specialist teachers are:
PE: Mrs Scott
Art: Ms Hale
Performing Arts: Ms Matthews
Chinese: Ms Ma
- Students need to return their empty art portfolios as soon as possible and will need an art smock for art classes.

Homework

- The main purpose of homework is to put in place good study habits
- In Year 6, homework consists of a digital Year Book comprising of monthly tasks due in draft form each week, culminating in a complete month of activities in the fourth week of the month. Students send their drafts each week to their teacher who gives feedback. The final monthly task is presented online. Students also must complete a reading portfolio.

Monthly run down:

- Week One to Week Three - one task per week to draft and send to your teacher (who will give feedback)
Week Four - Edit and compile the monthly yearbook page to present via Google Sites. This year we'll be using Google Sites..
- Please see your child's teacher if you have any complications with the homework
- Remember, the homework is your child's responsibility...

ICT

- Children work towards ICT goals, such as research skills, utilising search engines, designing and producing work, programming, creating webpages, etc
- We utilise ICT devices on most days, to accompany our learning
- Cyber safety lessons are included in ICT sessions
- BYOT program runs in Year 4-6
- Each class also has a scheduled time to make use of the school laptops for activities, including building websites,



3D design and programming.

ICT Tips for home:

- Children’s use of technology is easy to monitor when they use it in shared areas (lounge room, kitchen)
- It is important to have time without technology, especially close to sleep
- It can be difficult but open dialogue between your child and yourself about their use of technology is a good investment

Camp

- The Year 6 students go on camp to Valley Homestead, in week 4 of term 3. The children stay there for three nights and four days (3rd - 6th August).

Dave the Dog

This year Dave the therapy dog will be returning to Aspendale Primary School. Dave will be attending school 1 to 2 days a week with Emily Bourke in Year 1. Emily and Dave have completed the Visiting Therapy Dog & Handler Certification Course with the Lead the Way Institute.

While Dave will be spending most of his time in the Year 1 learning space, there are many opportunities for him to interact with students across all year levels, through lunch time clubs and yard duty times.

If you have concerns about your child interacting with Dave due to health or anxiety reasons, please speak to Emily Bourke or Assistant Principal Tom Pearce. Our therapy dog program is completely voluntary and all students will be given the option to participate or not.

If you have questions regarding the benefits of therapy dogs in schools or would just like to meet Dave, you can speak to Emily Bourke in the Year 1 learning space.

Dave the Dog Essential Agreement

- We will all be able to touch and cuddle Dave, but we must agree to take care of him.
- We always listen to instructions from Miss Bourke when around Dave.
- It is important for Dave to feel safe at all times: we are calm and gentle.
- When Dave is in the classroom, we must be given permission to come and say hello to him.
- When Dave is in his cave, we leave him in peace.
- We let Miss Bourke know if we are feeling worried about having Dave near us or are afraid of dogs.
- We wash our hands or use hand sanitiser after touching Dave.