

Week 1, Term 1

Hello families,

Welcome to our first Year 3 communication for 2021! We are so excited for the wonderful term that lies ahead.

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

Class	Library	Tuesday (1:50 - 3:30pm)	Thursday (9am - 10:40am)
3B	Wednesday	Performing Arts & P.E.	Visual Arts & Chinese
3G		P.E. & Performing Arts	Chinese & Visual Arts
3E		Visual Arts & Chinese	Performing Arts & P.E.
3JS		Chinese & Visual Arts	P.E. & Performing Arts

E-mail Communication Protocols

Our fortnightly updates will come to you via email.

We are always happy to receive questions and information via emails from parents. It is important to note that as part of our Parent/Teacher email agreement, emails will be responded to between 8am - 5.30pm, Monday to Friday and responses can be expected within 2 school days. Teachers who receive emails from parents over the weekend will endeavour to respond by 5.30pm Monday.

Please use email communication for absence notes or to make a time to book a meeting rather than sending information that would be better conveyed face-to-face.

Being Sunsmart

Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide. Our school Sunsmart Policy requires students to wear their school, broad-brimmed hat when outside and for sporting activities throughout Term 1 and 2 until 30 April and again from 1 September. If your child has lost or misplaced their hat over the holiday break, hats can be purchased at the school uniform shop. Children are asked to sit in a designated shaded area for the duration of play if they do not have their hats. It is also a good idea to pack some sunscreen in school bags for your child.



Year Three Camp

Our Year Three camp is to Camp Gundiwindi in the Dandenongs. It will take place from the 25th of August until the 27th of August. More information will come out about this throughout the year.

Respecting our Environment and the Take In-Take Out policy

Keeping rubbish out of the playground is a constant battle in all schools.

Here at APS, we strongly encourage Nude food lunchboxes and appreciate the efforts our families make to keep the rubbish at home, where it can be recycled or disposed of thoughtfully and appropriately. While Nude food is our goal, our 'Take in-Take out' policy is another way we can support a cleaner environment. The 'Take in-Take out' policy aims to minimise the rubbish that goes into our classroom bins and as a result ends up in landfill. In line with this policy, students will be required to take home any packaging/wrapping that comes to school in their lunchboxes. Canteen rubbish will continue to be disposed of at school. We appreciate your support with this policy/process.

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.

Parent Representatives

Please make your classroom teacher aware if you are interested in filling the wonderful role of Parent Rep for your class in 2021. Being a Parent Rep involves:

- * Typing up and distributing class contact lists
- * Being a point of contact for class and school events
- * Organising class social events

Breakfast Club

This year we will be running a breakfast club on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please refer to the school newsletter for further key information.

Kind regards,
Matt Bird, Amy Gardiner, Emma Jones, Jessie Sharp and Eoin Blane
Year Three Team