

# Aldgate Primary School

## Newsletter



TERM 4 WEEK 2

26 / 10 / 18

- 26/10 World Teacher's Day
- 30/10 G.C. Meeting
- 30/10 Yr. 4/5 Strevens Excursion
- 2/11 Assembly
- 5/11 Gymnastics R-5
- 5/11 STEM Excursion Huff
- 5/11 Kindy G.C. Meeting
- 7/11 Heathfield High School Parent Info 7-830pm
- 9/11 Pupil Free Day
- 12/11 Gymnastics R-5
- 16/11 Assembly
- 16/11 Ice Block Day
  
- Stirling Christmas Pageant Sunday 18th November

Please let us know as soon as possible if your child or children will no longer be at Aldgate Primary School in 2019. We are currently working on the number and arrangement of classes and that task will be so much easier, and require fewer changes, if we begin with accurate numbers. We very much appreciate your help with this.

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Today is World Teachers' Day. It is a special time to acknowledge the remarkable work that our teachers do for your child or children.

We hear a great deal about education and educators in the media. Sadly, we often hear negative stories about individuals, schools or the entire system.

I know that no educator is perfect, and that each of us has our own strengths and weaknesses. Over my career the expectations around curriculum provision, best-practice pedagogy and systemic accountability have all significantly changed. I think those changes have made the education system and face-to-face teaching so much better for individual and groups of students. They have been important and needed changes, but I would like to acknowledge the significant workload for all teachers today. It's a very long time since it's been just preparation and marking from a set and limited curriculum. Worksheets from photocopiable books have also gone the way of the dinosaur—and quite rightly too!

I know that the teachers at Aldgate and other schools design learning for children that specifically meets their needs and acknowledges what they already know and the misconceptions that they have. Teachers design tasks that are engaging, relevant and have authentic links to the real world. They work diligently to create units of work with open-ended starting and finishing points so that the different abilities of students is catered for. They provide verbal and written constructive feedback that lets the student know what they need to do to build on their success and what their next step is. They care for the academic, social, emotional, behavioural and physical needs of children over most days of every calendar year. They do their best to communicate with you about all of that. I think that's a remarkable job, and so many do it remarkably well. Congratulations to all teachers today.

As always, please feel free to contact me at the school or drop in for a chat.

Kind regards,  
Leah Kennewell, Acting Principal



# Mr. Menzell's Yr. 4/5 Class

Greeting Parents and Carers,

This newsletter it's my pleasure to share with you the learning of Aldgate's year 4/5 students from Room 4.

For those who haven't met me my name is Adam Menzell and I have joined Aldgate Primary school to team teach our class with Natalie Jones until the end of the year.

I'd like to begin this newsletter by introducing and talking about a key feature which always occurs and guides the learning in our classroom. I'm talking about 'Learning Intentions' and 'Success Criteria'.

Learning Intentions are descriptions of what learners should know, understand and be able to do by the end of a learning period or unit.

Success criteria are the measures used to determine whether, and how well, learners have met the learning intentions.

The students of the classroom have found that when I use this strategy it ensures they have a clear understanding of **What** they are learning, **How** they will learn it and **Why** they are learning it and this helps them be more successful.

In math we have been looking at collecting, displaying and analysing data. Students used this learning opportunity to create a profile of what an 'average' student looks like in our class. Each child generated questions to ask their peers, surveyed them, compiled the data and used software to produce graphs and posters which displayed their learning.

While the students excelled at using their newly learned computer skills in graph making, they particularly enjoyed being able to have control and input over the direction of their inquiry assignments.

In English we have been looking at how authors imply information without explicitly saying so and developing our inferencing skills to derive greater meaning from reading.

Inferencing is the ability to 'read between the lines' and to use clues in the text and your own prior knowledge to help you gain deeper understanding.

When we read that a character left the house holding an umbrella, we assume that it is raining. When a character has to stretch to reach a top shelf, we come to the conclusion that the character is short. These assumptions and conclusions are called inferences. While it may be second nature for us, inferring is not always that easy for children.

This is a vital reading skill as it improves reading comprehension, develops skills in drawing conclusions and sharpens the ability to make inferences.

These skills will be needed for all sorts of school assignments, including Reading, Science and HASS. Inferential thinking is a complex skill that will develop over time and with experience.

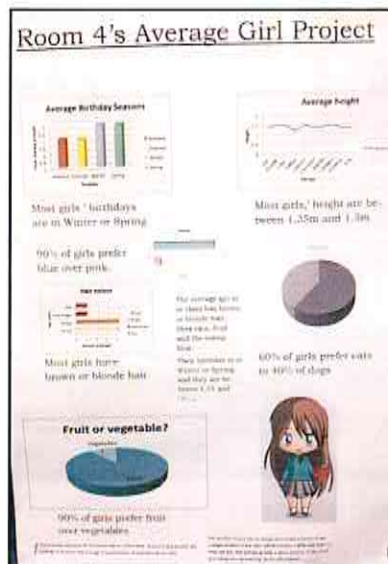
If you wish to help your child develop this important skill at home story time is a perfect opportunity. Whether you are reading to or listening to your child read, ask question about the story where the answer is not directly stated in the text.

For example, you can ask them things like what time of day it is, where the character is, or whether the character likes or dislikes something. Then ask them how they know that. This forces your child to think about what they are reading and relate it to knowledge they already have which then leads to an inference about the story.

Thank you for taking the time to read our classes contribution to the newsletter and I hope you and your child have a pleasant term4.

Kind regards,

Adam Menzell & the Students of Room 4.



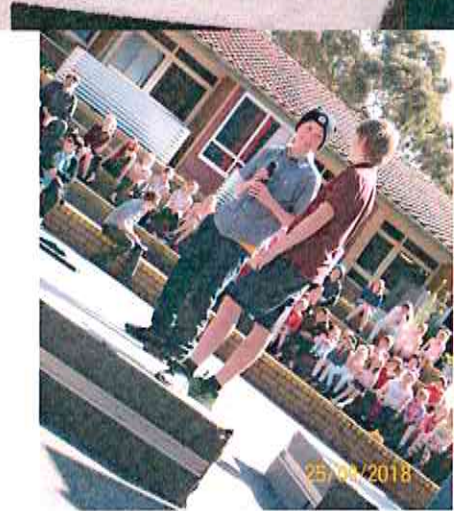


# Circus Photos





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# Notices

## Chesslife

This term there will also be a focus on an in-school chess tournament, which will be run during normal chess lesson times.

We are also changing the way we register students. We now have a registration tab on our website where students can register and pay online for the term <http://www.chesslife.com.au/register/>

Aldgate Primary will be having a  
**Pupil Free Day** on Friday  
9th November 2018  
Please see attached for the OSHC Booking  
Sheet or you can get one from the Front

## Comments of the Fortnight

What a teacher is,  
is more important  
than what he teaches.

KARL MENNINGER

**Teachers affect  
eternity; no one  
can tell where their  
influence stops.**

HENRY BROOKS ADAMS

Teachers have three loves:  
love of learning, love  
of learners, and the love  
of bringing the first two  
loves together.

SCOTT HAYDEN



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Child Development