

# Aspendale Gardens Primary School Newsletter—Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December



INQUIRER THINKER BALANCED COURAGEOUS KNOWLEDGEABLE  
REFLECTIVE PRINCIPLED CARING OPEN-MINDED COMMUNICATOR



Primary Years Programme

*Aspendale Gardens is an IB World School that strives to be internationally minded.*

*Our purpose is to provide a supportive safe and dynamic learning environment. We promote inquiry, curiosity, creativity and individuality. We aim to develop a resilient, open-minded school community where all students become independent, emotionally intelligent and socially competent as they strive to achieve their potential as global citizens.*

## 2023 DIARY

### DECEMBER

**Thursday 7** Christmas Carols 4:45pm—6:30pm  
**Friday 8** Years 5 & 6 Beach Program Ends  
**Monday 11** Music Soiree—6:15pm in our CLC  
**Tuesday 12** 2024 Foundation Orientation Day  
9:05am—10:30am  
**Year 6 to Year 7 Orientation Day**  
**(Government Secondary Schools)**  
**Thursday 14** Year 6 Graduation Ceremony  
**Friday 15** Class Transition—Meet 2024 Teacher  
& Classmates (11:45am —12:30pm)

**Monday 18** Year 6 Gumbuya World Excursion  
**Tuesday 19** End of School Year—Students dismissed  
at 1:30pm

### JANUARY 2024

**Monday 29** Staff Return to School  
**Tuesday 30** Students start Term 1

### FEBRUARY 2024

**Wednesday 28** SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

## SAVE THE DATES

**MUSIC SOIREE—Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December @ 6:15pm**

**2024 FOUNDATION ORIENTATION DAY**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 9:05am—10:30am**

**Year 6 to Year 7 Orientation Day—(G'ment Secondary Schools)**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December—ALL DAY**

### FROM OUR ACTING PRINCIPAL

As I write the penultimate newsletter of the school year, I reflect on how quickly the year has gone and how much we have squeezed into the 2023 year. Aspendale Gardens Primary School is a wonderful environment for learning and is well supported by our school community. Over the past fortnight, we have been having conversations with the staff as part of the review process. They have been sharing their successes and reflecting on their areas of development within their teaching this year. It has been wonderful to hear the passion of the staff as they share these successes. The discussions ended with conversations around things we could improve on as teachers and as a school, moving forwards.

#### Musical Soiree

Our instrumental music teachers have invited the parents of those students who participate in instrumental music lessons, to an evening of music. On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December the students will be performing for their families in the CLC, starting at 6.15pm. I look forward to experiencing the progress these students have made and hearing them perform their music.



## Year 6 Graduation

Our Year 6 cohort have been busy planning for and organising their Graduation. The students are working in groups to create the different aspects of the Graduation ceremony. These committees are made up of Formalities (invitations, running order, speech writing, Decorations (designs of spaces, table decorations, name tags), Entertainment (song selections, choreography, props) and Digital Tech (program design, student videos, student photo slideshow). It is so rewarding to see the students work together on their own Graduation and learn some valuable skills in the process. We look forward to our Year 6s Graduation Ceremony which will take place on Thursday 14th December.



## Class Structures for 2024

Following some late changes to enrolments for 2024, we will be changing the class structure for our Year 1 and Year 2 students, from what was published last week. This allows for a greater balance within our junior years.

The new structure will be:

Year 1s: 3 classes averaging 22 students.

Year 2s: 5 classes averaging 20 students.



## Classes for 2024

The teachers have now finalised putting the classes together for 2024. The students will be visiting their new classes on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

## Staffing in 2024

In 2024, we will be welcoming back Cheryle Osborne, our substantive Principal. For the last 2 years Cheryle has been Acting Principal in Mallacoota, Queenscliff and Ocean Grove. Cheryle is looking forward to returning to AGPS.

We will be farewelling Jess Burton, who will be taking a year's leave from AGPS and developing her experience teaching in a different setting. We thank Jess for her supportive and nurturing approach in the classroom and the leadership she has shown within the Year 2 area. We wish Jess all the best for the next year.



We will also be farewelling Karen Coltman, who has been teaching in the Year 6 team for the past 2 years. Karen has brought her expertise to our Year 6 cohort and has really grasped the needs and interests of the students. We thank Karen and look forward to her continuing her relationship with AGPS, as a CRT in 2024.

We farewell Melissa Moore, who has been teaching in the Foundation team since August. We thank Melissa for the speed with which she got to know and appreciate the children in FMC. We wish Melissa all the best in her future teaching positions at Mentone Park Primary School.



Lisa Webber has been on family leave and has been providing her Peaceful Kids Program to our school. Previously to this, Lisa was a passionate classroom teacher and engaging Performing Arts teacher. Lisa has been successful in obtaining a wellbeing position at Le Page Primary School.

Kaylee Athanasiou has been an Education Support staff member for the past seven years, bringing patience, thoughtfulness and a sense of humour to our school. We wish Kaylee all the best with her next endeavour.



## Reports Released

Teachers have been completing their final assessments and writing reports on their students. The end of Semester 2 reports will be released on Compass at 3:45pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. It is often the case that the Compass portal is slow to download on the evening of the release, so if you have difficulties downloading the report, please try again the following morning.



Year 6 parents and any others who will be exiting the school will need to download any reports that they would like to keep by Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, as the Compass accounts will close and parents will not be able to gain further access.

## Reminder

There will be a whole school assembly on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December, commencing at 2.30pm and final Year 6 farewell assembly on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Have a fantastic weekend!

*Jonathan*



# AGPS PEER SUPPORT



**Congratulations to our Peer Support Recipients for Term 3 and 4!**

**These students were recognised for their positive contributions in the school yard.**

Student Name	Class	Description
Ben	FEG	For telling his friends not to wrestle.
Kenzie	5RK	For helping pick up rubbish.
Emerson	5BM	For helping a friend.
Nika	FNT	For coming over to make sure her friends are OK!
Xavier	6BH	For helping a hurt kid and making them feel better.
Emily	5AA	For volunteering to help out a friend.

## 2024 SCHOOL TERM DATES

**TERM 1:** Tuesday 30 January (students) to Thursday 28 March  
**TERM 2:** Monday 15 April to Friday 28 June  
**TERM 3:** Monday 15 July to Friday 20 September  
**TERM 4:** Monday 7 October to Friday 20 December

## Thursday Morning Running Group Mordialloc Beach Run

This year, students from **Years 3 - 6** have been running very hard around the Edithvale Wetlands behind AGPS as part of our **Thursday Morning Running Group**. We have had between 70 - 90 students signed up for running group across this year, with fantastic numbers attending every Thursday morning ready to run.

Many of these students have improved their overall health and fitness levels, showing a healthy and active lifestyle. After each session students have been treated to a delicious and nutritious breakfast, providing them with energy to start their school day.



The year ended last **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November** with our annual 4km beach run to Mordialloc Beach (Peter Scullin Reserve). After months of training, students completed the 4km run starting from AGPS, running through the Edithvale Wetlands, running past St. Louis de Montfort's School and Mordialloc SC to finally arrive at Peter Scullin Reserve to the smell of sausages and hash browns on the BBQs. On arrival at the beach, students enjoyed the delicious sausages in bread, hash browns, and juices prepared by a number of wonderful AGPS staff and parents!



While down at Mordialloc Beach last Thursday, we also celebrated our **Run Around Australia Challenge** that students, teachers, and parents of Thursday Morning Running Group have been participating in across **Terms 3 & 4**. As was mentioned in last week's newsletter, across Terms 3 & 4 we set the challenge to anyone who took part in Thursday Morning Running Group to see how far we could run around Australia (13,995 km) before our final session of the year. **The results from the challenge were included in last week's newsletter.**



Congratulations to all of the students, teachers, and parents who took part in our Run Around Australia Challenge.

A special mention to those who finished in the Top 3 for their respective Year Levels. These students, teachers, and parents received a medal for their achievement last Thursday.

A big thank you to Mr. Murphy, Mr. Graham, Miss McKaskill, Mr. Alex Taylor, Mrs. Burton, Mrs. Keulen, Paula Decarli, Sarah Byrnes, Mrs. Anagnostou, Mr. Baker, and Mr. Cracknell who have either run or prepared breakfast for our group each week throughout the year. Thank you to the following parents who have also assisted at Thursday Morning Running Group throughout the year; Noemi Storne, Jay Inciong, Yasmin Attard-Mill, Scott Mill, Moran Galdor, Gary Hannah, Matthew Young, Julia Poppleton, Bryan Lim, Paul Candy, Robb Bibb, Simon Williams, and Matt Norton. Apologies to any parents or teachers we have missed. Your help throughout the year was also appreciated.

Thursday Morning Running Group will be back again in 2024. Keep an eye out for further information in early Term 1 next year!

**Mr. Braden King**



## Environmental Team Signing off for 2023

The end of the year is fast approaching so we thought we would end 2023 with a few updates:

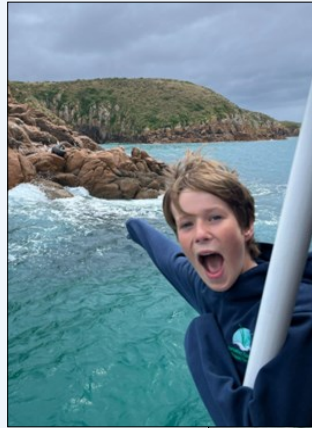
### Wonder Recycling Rewards Program

In Term 2, our school participated in the Wonder Recycling Rewards program to help reduce the number of plastic bread bags that are ending up in landfill. Our school saved almost 15kg of plastic bags from this fate, which will now be recycled into an oil that is used to make more food packaging. We received this sports equipment earned by our school community which included soccer balls, junior tennis rackets and some frisbees. Mr King has pumped up the balls and added these into our sports borrowing bins. A massive thank you to everyone who helped us to earn these items, they will be enjoyed by all students.



### Term 4 Environmental Leaders' Excursion

On Tuesday the 14th of November, the Year 6 Environmental Leaders attended a Dolphin Research Institute Marine Ambassadors excursion. We made our way down to Stony Point Pier to board a boat bound for Seal Rocks. Unfortunately the weather was unpredictable and the swell very large, so we were unable to exit the heads and venture into Bass Strait, but our captain had a back up plan! Instead, the boat took us around the world famous Phillip Island, past San Remo and to the beautiful granite cliffs at Cape Woolamai. The views were spectacular, the wind was icy, and overall, we had a wonderful experience, and we did see one seal sunbathing on the rocks at the bottom of the cliffs!



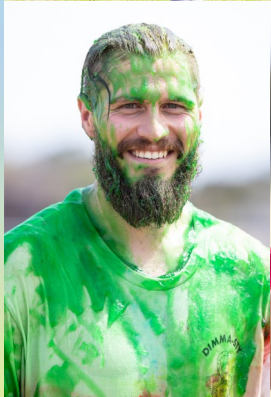
### Donating Used Stationary Items

To assist with reducing our environmental footprint at AGPS, we would like to encourage the reuse of stationary items that students have used throughout the year. Items that are reusable and in a good condition, including pencil cases, highlighters, scissors, rulers and sharpeners, can be reused by students for the following year, or donated back to the school for reuse. Donated items will be distributed out to teachers in all year levels to be used as spares in classrooms. If we receive more items than required, we will be looking to donate them to a local organisation such as Give Write. This organisation accepts donations of new, near new or slightly pre-loved school stationery items for repackaging to families who need help the most. Please place any used stationary items in the box in the office for Miss Kelly to collect and distribute as needed.



On behalf of the Environmental Team, we would like to wish you all a happy and safe holiday period and look forward to helping to make our planet a better place in 2024 and beyond.

**Ruby, Lewis, Leah & Eli- Environmental Leaders**  
**Amy Kelly- Environmental Coordinator**









Save the Date

AGPS  
CHRISTMAS @  
THURSDAY

TONIGHT

More details coming soon!

**OUR CANTEEN IS OPEN**

**WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY**

**Counter sales available at lunchtime only**

**Please place Lunch orders via QKR**

**QKR closes at 8:59am on day of delivery**

# STORYTIME WITH SANTA

Enjoy some Christmas fun with stories,  
songs and a visit from Santa.

**Chelsea Library**  
Wednesday 13 December  
5pm

**Cheltenham Library**  
Saturday 16 December  
11am

Santa will be a very special  
guest at Storytime!

Santa will join us halfway for  
songs and dancing before  
being available for photos.



**Bookings required.**  
Call 1300 135 668  
In person at any library branch



# Evergreen Christmas Trees

25th November Opening weekend  
Freshly Cut



**SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL  
BY PRESENTING THIS**

**CODE:** BBQ Egg and Bacon rolls  
Chelsea rotary club

**• COME DOWN AND PICK YOUR TREE •**

**SHARE WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY  
10% OF TREE SALES GO TO THE SCHOOL**



Cnr. Thames Promenade &  
Riverend RD Bangholme

## Hours


Saturday/Sunday  
9:00am - 6:00pm

Monday - Friday  
2:00pm - 6:00pm



Open last full weekend in  
November

 Evergreen Christmas Trees

 @evergreen\_christmas\_trees

# SALE—SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

## 2 FOR PRICE OF 1 (\$5.00)

Uniforms are available to purchase during office hours:  
8:30am — 4:00pm

**ALL donations can be left at the school office.**

If you have any pre-loved uniforms in good condition please consider donating them. All donations can be left at school reception.



### Why join AusKick Mordialloc?

- ✓ Friday Nights after work!
- ✓ Modern facilities
- ✓ Social and skill development
- ✓ Having FUN!

*Join here now!*

[www.playhq.com/afl/register/8a04f8](http://www.playhq.com/afl/register/8a04f8)



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ASPENDALE  
GARDENS  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE

# GIANTS BASKETBALL

We are desperately looking for any girls interested in playing for the Giants in the coming Autumn 2024 season.

If you're interested in joining and born in 2013, 2014 (U12) and 2011, 2012 (U14), please get in touch.

The Autumn Season begins at the end of January 2024.

All abilities and skill levels are welcome




## MORE INFO

 [www.agcsinc.org.au](http://www.agcsinc.org.au)

 9587 5955

 [basketball@agcsinc.org.au](mailto:basketball@agcsinc.org.au)

 [facebook.com/AGCSinc](https://facebook.com/AGCSinc) &  
[facebook.com/AspendaleGardensGiants](https://facebook.com/AspendaleGardensGiants)





**PROGRAM INCLUDES**

- 01** 9-3pm each day
- 02** Cricket, Soccer, Netball and Basketball on offer
- 03** Suitable for all ages and skill levels
- 04** Guest appearances at selected programs

**THREE DAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMP!**

**20% off for past participants!**

**Dates**

January and late December. See website for more details

**LOCATIONS**

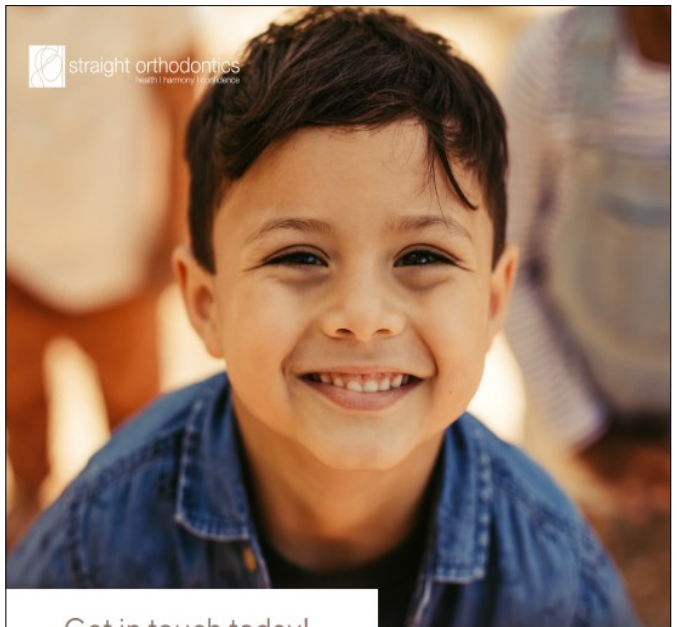
Brighton and Hampton



It was overall very positive and the kids made great connections with coaching staff and other participants

**Contact Us:**  
1300 914 368  
admin@australiansportscamps.com.au

**More Information:**  
australiansportscamps.com.au



Get in touch today!

📞 03 9585 8000

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✉️ [info@straightorthodontics.com.au](mailto:info@straightorthodontics.com.au)

📍 **MENTONE**

39 BALCOMBE ROAD MENTONE VIC 3149

**FRANKSTON**

30 CRANBOURNE ROAD FRANKSTON VIC 3199

**Providing Complimentary Initial Consultations**



# SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

<https://www.springvaleindoorsports.com.au/school-holidays/>

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**\$10+ / Day with CCS**



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