



MINDABOOKA

Adamstown Public School



Week 2 Term 1

5 February 2019

From the Principal

WELCOME TO 2019 EVERYONE!

On behalf of the staff of Adamstown Public School, I would like to welcome all new and continuing students and their families to a new and exciting year. 2019 is shaping up to be a huge one with so many wonderful events already planned.

Each new year offers fresh and new challenges for all students. With your continued support and interest, I am confident that your children will learn effectively and make the most of the many and varied academic, cultural, sporting and social opportunities our school has to offer.

Last Friday all students were placed in classes after much consideration. I thank you for your support and patience with this process.

Our school's positive and enviable reputation continues to grow. We have enrolled 54 new students and currently have 282 students to begin the school year at Adamstown PS. Only local enrolments are being taken with all classes full to capacity at this stage.

Parents should expect that it will take up to two or three weeks for students to settle fully into the new class environment. However, to our students' credit, they already seem to have done just that. It is worth being mindful that *not* being in the same class as their 'best friend from last year' can be beneficial as research shows that it can stimulate and broaden new friendships and cause children to grow both socially and academically.

Thank you to the teachers and staff who came to school on many occasions during the holiday period to prepare rooms and teaching and administrative programs. These extra efforts have ensured a smooth start to the year for everyone.

SCHOOL TIMES: 9:00am to 3:00pm

BREAK TIMES: Lunch 11:00am to 11:50am, Recess: 1:50 to 2:15pm

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30am to 3:15pm

There are only minor staff and role changes at Adamstown this year. It is wonderful to welcome back Mrs Dixon following her leave last year and a warm welcome to Miss Carson who will be joining the team as class teacher for 1C, and Mr Wirth as our Technology Support Officer. Ms Gibson has taken on the challenge to deliver an explicit Visual Arts program this year to all students in preparation for our bi-annual Art Show.

CLASSES FOR 2019

KL – Ms Erin Littlewood

KW – Ms Sarah Wenham - Assistant Principal (Early Stage 1)

1C – Miss Jessica Carson

1J – Miss Jennifer Judge

2N – Miss Natalie Jordan

2/3M – Mrs Colleen Mahony & Mrs Emma Brown

3/4C – Mr Sam Cook

3/4D – Mr Jack Downing

4/5D – Mrs Megan Neilands – Curriculum Support & Assistant Principal (Stage 2)

5/6A – Miss Tyler Anderson

5/6D – Mr Adam Davidson - Assistant Principal (Stage 3)



OTHER STAFF and SCHOOL ROLES

Mrs Kym Ross – Principal
Mrs Danika Dixon – Curriculum Support & Assistant Principal (Stage 1)
Mrs Myfanwy Holland - School Administration Manager
Mrs Belinda McGahen - School Administration Officer
Mr Darren Howell - Teacher/Librarian
Ms Megan Gibson - Teacher Relief and Visual Arts Teacher
Mrs Monica Smith – Learning and Support Teacher (3 days)
Mrs Emily Davidson – Learning and Support Teacher (1 day)
Mrs Justine Smith – School Learning Support Officer
Mrs Jayd Owens – School Administration Officer & School Learning Support Officer
Mr Glenn Wirth - IT support
Mrs Helen Kelly - School Learning Support Officer
Mrs Amanda Baker - School Learning Support Officer
Mrs Marie Strick - School Learning Support Officer
Mrs Penny Holt - Defence Transition Support
Mr John Maloney - General Assistant
Ms Louise Gleeson - Band Conductor and Coordinator
Mrs Helen McIntyre- School Counsellor

STUDENT INFORMATION



Getting to know our students is very important to us and so a short questionnaire is being sent home this week with students from Year 1 to 6 asking parents/carers for up to date information about their child's experiences, strengths, likes, dislikes etc. This valuable information will assist their new teacher in catering to their individual needs. I urge you to complete and return this information to the office or the class teacher as soon as possible.

SCHOOL BAND

Band practice will resume next Monday morning (11 February) at 8am sharp. All band members are to meet Ms. Gleeson with their instruments. Other interested parents and students are most welcome to come along at this time to find out more about joining our wonderful school band. Our School Band meeting will be held at 3:30pm on Thursday 21 February in the staffroom. I look forward to seeing you there.



KEEPING OUR KIDS SAFE AND HEALTHY

We have a number of students enrolled in our school who have severe, life threatening allergic reactions to some foods particularly shellfish, tree nuts and peanuts. We would ask for the co-operation of our school community in helping to minimising the risk to these students by not including peanut butter, Nutella or nut based food in their children's lunches. Please talk to your child about not sharing or swapping lunches or other food. Your efforts will help make our school a safer place for all our students.

'MEET THE TEACHER' EVENINGS



We will be conducting information sessions on 18, 19 and 20 February this year. These sessions give parents the opportunity to meet their child's teacher and learn about the general operation of the stage and classes for the year. We are choosing three evenings and differing time slots to help minimise the chance of parents having two meetings on at the one time. It is impossible to avoid overlaps completely, however if two parents or carers can attend, the problem can be overcome.

Childcare will be provided in the library during the sessions.

Monday 18 February at 5:30pm: Stage 2 (3M, 3/4C, 3/4D, 4N)

Tuesday 19 February at 5:30pm: Early Stage 1 (KL, KW)

Wednesday 20 February at 5:30pm: Stage 1 and Stage 3 (1C, 1J, 2M, 2N, 5N, 5/6A, 5/6D)

Please note that these class sessions are general introductory meetings. Should you need to discuss specific issues about your child, you should make an appointment to speak with me or your child's teacher at a mutually convenient time.



SCHOOL PHOTOS REMINDER

Whole school, class, leadership and sporting photos will be taken on Tuesday 12 February. Kindergarten and Buddy school photos have been scheduled for Monday 25 February. All students should be in full school uniform including white socks and black shoes. Envelopes with photo orders must be brought to school on this day.

BIKES AND SCOOTERS

Children in Years 3 to 6 may ride to school unaccompanied; however children in Kinder to Year 2 must be accompanied by an adult. This is a guide set out by the Roads and Maritime Services, which has been adopted by schools to ensure the safe arrival and departure of your child to and from school. Please respect that we are only considering safety when we ask for your co-operation. Children riding bikes and scooters are required to wear a helmet (by law). Any child without a helmet will not be permitted to ride.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL and WATER DAY

For those parents and grandparents wanting to ensure they have cleared the day to attend our annual Swimming Carnival, the date is set for Friday 15 February. The carnival will involve students 8 years of age and older and consist mainly of competitive age events in various strokes but will also have some novelty events and free swim time for less capable swimmers.

Our junior school will remain at school for our popular 'Water Day' activities.



WE LOVE TO SEE YOU AT SCHOOL

Children love to see their parents and carers at their school, whether helping out in the classroom, canteen or being involved in other ways. Research shows that students perform better at school when their parents or carers take an active interest in their school work. Your contribution to the school is needed and as always highly valued.

We are very fortunate at Adamstown PS to have a large number of parent volunteers that help to support the many programs that we have in place for our students but we are always looking for more.

Ways you might get involved:

- help in the classroom
- listen to children read
- help children on computers
- help with school excursions and sporting events
- prepare food and serve children at the canteen

PARENT HELPERS' W,H&S INDUCTION

A short orientation meeting for all parents wishing to volunteer as a helper at school in 2019 will be held on Monday 18 February at 4:45pm in the staffroom. This is a Work, Health and Safety requirement for all volunteers each year. A RSVP slip has been attached to this newsletter for you to reserve a spot if you are interested.

I look forward to meeting with you then.

BOOK PACKS

Thank you for the over whelming support we have received once again this year re Book Packs. Book Pack supplies began to be distributed to students today. For consistency across all stages, all supplies will remain at school and will be labelled and stored individually for student use. If you find that you are experiencing financial difficulties at this time, please contact the office for support. A payment schedule can be organised to ensure that your child is able to access their learning materials as soon as possible.



IT'S TIME TO LABEL SCHOOL ITEMS



You can use a permanent laundry marker to label clothes, hats and shoes, or sew or iron on personalised labels. Go through your child's bag with them weekly to check that labels haven't fallen off or faded with washing. If something doesn't come home, ask at the office or check the school's lost property baskets.

E NEWS



In order to ensure you receive your digital copy of the Mindabooka via personal email, please alert the office of your email address and we will be right on to it.

Thank you for making our school the 'Greatest School Around'.

Kym Ross – PRINCIPAL

Library News

Our library is excited to welcome all students back to the library in 2019.

Classes will borrow and return books on the following days:

Monday: 3/4C, 3/4D, KL, KW

Tuesday: 5/6A, 5/6D, 1C, 2N

Wednesday: 2/3M, 1J

Thursday: 4/5N

Borrowed books should be returned each week so new books can be borrowed. This system greatly reduces the chance for resources to become lost.

Library Bags

We encourage all students to carry their books in our School library bag or similar as they help to protect our books from getting lost and keep them clean and dry from other items in the school bag.

Adamstown School Library bags are included in the Kindergarten book packs and can be purchased from the school office.

Lost and Damaged Books

Students are responsible for the books they borrow and due care must be taken when they are in their care. However, we understand that accidents do occur. We appreciate your support and trust you understand that if books are lost or damaged then a replacement book or monetary donation paid to the office would be greatly appreciated.

This will assist us to maintain a quality literature selection for all students. Occasionally we may send home and overdue notice if a book has not been returned to the library after the due date. We also look for the missing items on a regular basis on library shelves.

Darren Howell

Teacher Librarian

Visual Arts News

We have a fantastic year of Visual Arts planned for Adamstown Public School, culminating in our Art Show, which is scheduled for later in the year.

This year all classes K-6 will be attending a weekly Visual Arts lesson in our school's Art Room with Miss Megan Gibson. Experiences will include painting, photography, sculpture, environmental art, weaving, Aboriginal Art, illustration, art using the computer and mosaic work. Students will be completing Department of Education Units of Work, studying the art of famous local, Australian and International artists. Each student will be using a Visual Arts process journal (which has been included in each book pack). This journal will show your child's art journey throughout the year.

We are keen to receive second hand collared business shirts to use as art smocks. These will be worn back to front with the top button secured in the back to help protect student's school uniforms. Short sleeve shirts will be used for the warmer months and long sleeve shirts for the cooler months and when long sleeve school jumpers are being worn. Wherever possible we will use washable paint, glue and other medium for art lessons.

Please send donations of business shirts to the office. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Kindest regards,

Megan Gibson

Important Dates

THIS WEEK	THIS MONTH	THIS TERM
8 Feb ■ Practise Assembly (Students only)	11 Feb ■ Band Practice to begin 12 Feb ■ School Photos 15 Feb ■ Water Day (Kinder, Yrs 1 & 2) ■ Swimming Carnival (Yrs 3 to 6) 18 Feb ■ Parent Information – S 2 19 Feb ■ Parent Information – ES 1 20 Feb ■ Parent Information – S1 & S3 25 Feb ■ Kinder and Buddy photos	1 Mar ■ Clean Up Oz Day ■ Wrapper Free Day 4 Mar ■ Basketball Clinic begins 8 Mar ■ International Women's Day Assembly 11 Mar ■ Young Leaders Day ■ P&C AGM and Meeting 14 Mar ■ Selective High School Test 14 Mar ■ Best Start Interviews – KL ■ Best Start Interviews – KW ■ Disco 19 Mar ■ Harmony Day 20 Mar ■ Earth Hour 21 Mar ■ Teacher / Parent / Student 29 Mar Discussions begin for Years 1 8 April to 6. 12 April ■ Last Day of Term 1



Collecting Now

- Book Pack Orders
- Swimming Carnival



We have children enrolled at our school with life threatening anaphylactic allergic reactions to shellfish, nuts and peanut products. We would like to encourage families not to send these products to school with their children. Nut products include peanut butter, Nutella, sesame seeds, loose nuts, nut or chocolate bars.

PARENT HELPERS INDUCTION

Session to be conducted in the staffroom

Name/s: _____

I am able to attend:

☐ Monday 18th February at 4:45pm

DIGITAL NEWSLETTER DETAILS

If you are a new family or haven't previously accessed on-line newsletters please complete the following details so you will receive Mindabooka by email. If you do not wish to receive emails, the newsletter will be added to the APS website and Skoolbag app each fortnight.

Please return this to the office.

Name:

.....

Eldest Student's name:

.....

Email:

.....

Additional family members

Name:

.....

Email:

.....

'Seasons for Growth' Grief Program

Learning to live with change and loss

Change and loss are issues that affect all of us at some stage in our lives. At Adamstown Public School we recognise that when changes occur in families through death, separation, divorce or related circumstances, young people may benefit from learning how to manage these changes effectively. We are therefore once again offering a very successful education program called Seasons for Growth. This program is facilitated in small groups and is based on research which highlights the importance of social support and the need to practise new skills to cope effectively with change and loss. The program focuses on issues such as self-esteem, managing feelings, problem-solving, decision-making, effective communication and support networks.

If you think your son or daughter would benefit from Seasons for Growth we would encourage you to talk to him/her about participating in the program.

Adamstown Public School is pleased to be able to offer this important program to Stage 3 students (Years 5 and 6) during Term 1 and we are confident that it will be a valuable learning experience for those who request to be involved. If you require further information please contact Penny Holt (DSTA).

Seasons for Growth has been timetabled to run for eight weeks, each weekly session is approximately 1 hour long. The program concludes with a celebration session. Later in the year each group will have the opportunity to meet for two further sessions to build on earlier learning.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND RETURN TO Mrs Penny Holt by Thursday 7 February 2019

Penny Holt
Seasons for Growth Companion

Kym Ross
Principal

✂-----

'Seasons For Growth' Expression of Interest Form

I _____ would like my

son/daughter/ward _____ of class ____ to be considered for
the Seasons for Growth program. I have discussed with this with him/her.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date: _____