



Fun in the sun!

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### 5pm 19 June - 5pm 3 July

Sentral booking window for Parent Teacher Phone interviews open

**3 July** - Last day of Term 2

**20 July** - Term 3 Staff Development Day

**21 July** - Students return for Term 3

**21-28 July** - Parent Teacher Phone Conferences

**27 July** - Kindergarten 2021 School Readiness Parent Information Evening 6-7pm

**3 Aug** - P&C Meeting via Zoom

**7 Aug** - Semester 1 Reports distributed

**20 Aug** - Kinder O Expo

## MINDABOOKA Week 10 Term 2 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Community,

Wow, it is very hard to believe we are at the end of Term 2 and at the end of a full Semester at school. The collective achievements over this last term cannot be underestimated. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincerest of thanks to the students, staff and the community of Adamstown Public School for their patience, flexibility and compassion. We all faced many challenges, often thrust upon us with minimum notice that challenged our way of living and learning. Together, we all ensured that the continuity of education and the wellbeing of our treasured children remained the highest priority.

There will still be some time before this is all behind us so please continue to connect with the school should any concerns arise.

### Curriculum review

You may have heard over the last few weeks of the significant curriculum reform that is being delivered in the Department over the coming years. The reforms are based on the recommendations that came out of the NSW Curriculum Review, the first significant review of the NSW Curriculum since 1989. I will keep our community informed as this unfolds and the educational changes and professional learning that our staff and leadership team will be undertaking to support the reforms in order to offer our students the very best in education today, tomorrow and in to the future.

### My Place Writing Competition

Please take the time to have a read of just a few snippets on the following pages of the amazing writing that our students have been producing in response to the My Place Writing Competition. Our entries are all submitted and the belief of writing for a purpose is certainly very evident in these emotive entries. Congratulations to all involved and to Mrs Neilands for her coordination and support of the competition. We will eagerly await the feedback from the judges.

### Homework Survey

Our current Homework Policy is under review and it is now our communities opportunity to provide feedback on the new procedures we will engage moving forward. If you could complete the survey found at:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc5KnaXSbcU2IMVkhI02tgUI9ByAWeP3TQfP4RMaxHAXG6HeQ/viewform>

it would be very much appreciated. The survey will remain open till Friday 24th July.

### Community generosity

The staff at Adamstown Public School have been extremely humbled by the community generosity of the Thanks-A-Latte promotion that the P&C have organised during this last week of term. We are truly grateful for your acknowledgment of the staffs efforts during the Learning from Home period and we could not have done it without such strong support of our families. Thank you to the Parsons family for organising the voucher from The Barn and giving back to our local community.



Have a truly restful holiday break everyone, take the time to make new memories with families and friends and I very much look forward to seeing all of our smiling learners back on Tuesday 21 July. Take care.

*Emma Stothard*

Principal (rel)



# Principal Awards

## Core Value: Respect



Ruby



Hayden

Always demonstrating polite, respectful manners and following our school rules.

Always demonstrating polite, respectful manners and following our school rules.

## Core Value: Responsibility



Abigail

Looking out for others and showing initiative.



Charli

Looking out for others and showing initiative.



Lilly

Looking out for others and showing initiative.

## Our Happy Place...

*Makerspace, writing, learning with nature, chocolate crackle maths and veggie gardens !*



**Check out more pics on our Facebook page and on our school website Gallery page**

Our Facebook page is a place where we want to build our community and school culture, it is a celebration of our community and we are happy to see support for various posts via a Facebook comment or a 'like'. Follow or like our official page to stay connected!



# APS loves to write!

A group of enthusiastic young writers stepped up to the challenge to enter the 2020 My Place Writing Competition. Their task was to write about the year 2020 and their experiences as this will be a year of historical significance in the future. With so many incredible events happening in the first half of this year, there was so much to reflect on. Students wrote about bushfires, droughts, floods and COVID-19. Please enjoy some paragraphs from a few of our entries. Congratulations to all students who completed this task and entered the competition, well done!



2020 Diary

Author: Tessa

Friday 5th of March

Subject-A virus

So now people are saying that 2020 is just gonna be one bad thing a month.

January-fires

February-floods

March-THE CORONAVIRUS!

There's this virus going around in China that apparently can live on any surface for many hours and when it reaches your lungs, it could kill you. It's so contagious that the whole of China has gone into lockdown in their homes. They said on the news that it is likely to move to other countries soon and it might infect America, Australia and Britain. They said it wasn't long before we would be in lockdown too.

They say that school might not be compulsory in the next month and that it was advisable to stay at home if the Corona-virus reaches Australia and gets a load more people sick.

I hope we don't go into lockdown soon; there's nothing fun to do at my house and I don't think I can go more than a few weeks without seeing my friends.

Author: Simone

2020 has been a roller coaster, with natural disasters and a global pandemic. Horrible droughts, bushfires, floods and race riots piled on top. 2020 will be a year to remember!

Australia has seen nine horrific droughts since the 1860s. The most severe rainfalls deficiencies occurred in the period 1895-1983, but Australian droughts continue to this day. Many farms have had years of drought around towns like Coonabarabran. A farm there named Barkala had slim horses that had gone with little water and food for months.

Some bushfires have caused widespread destruction in Australia. Droughts throughout 2019 created conditions for the 2019 bushfires to flare into frightful blazes. Water restrictions required people to limit showers to four minutes, wash cars with buckets and water the yard with greywater. Many schools restricted outdoor activities due to health concerns from the thick smoke.

Bushfires at My Place

I love a parched country, A land of charcoaled trees, of ragged, exhausted farmers, of isolation, and disease. So a couple a days into bushfires because we live across the road from bush we were a bit anxious about our house getting burnt down. So we packed a bag of clothes and stuff we wouldn't be able to replace. Mum said to me "Do you think you need to take all your sport stuff!". I said, "Of course mum it's my South Sydney Rabbitohs jersey, of course I do!".

Author: Louis

# APS loves to write!

## My Place

Author: Molly

30/4/2020

My mind is going from one place to another right now, so much is changing, and nothing seems to be making a lot of sense to me. Right now, we are in the middle of an unexpected worldwide pandemic. Sporting, playdates and lots of laughter is on hold. We are pretty much stuck at home bored with absolutely nothing to do. No visits to the skatepark, playgrounds or even school. Panic buying at the shops is overpowering the news headlines and the talk of toilet paper shortages has got shoppers nervously lining up at store opening hours. I especially feel disappointed that the ANZAC Day commemorations are cancelled. Anzac Day is a very special day to my family and I. My great grandfather survived the Vietnam War and each ANZAC Day we attend the Dawn Service. We get hot chocolates on the way home to warm us up. This year paying our respects meant standing out on our driveways and lighting a candle. It was different but still magical. I guess sometimes there are ways to work around the problem but I still I can't believe before my little eyes there's something going on across the world that we don't see every day. This is just one of the problems so far this year. Drought, bushfires, protests and obviously COVID-19, you could say it's been one hell of a year! My fingers are crossed and hoping the year gets better so I'm able to see and spend lots of time with my family and friends once again.

Author: Emily

## The First Day Back

"Wake up!"

I jumped out of bed then immediately dived back under the blankets as Mum threw open the curtains, flooding my bedroom with light. "Get up, sleepyhead!" she said. "School's back today!"

I gasped. "Oh yeah." I sprung out of bed, hastily grabbing my school uniform.

No one had been to school for nearly two months because of the devastating pandemic. In fact, all of Australia was in lockdown. Now students were starting to go back one day a week. This was my first day back, along with everyone in Grade Six at my school.

## Fires – Drought – COVID 19

Author: Raymond

As 2019 ended, Australian farmers were probably hoping for a much brighter 2020. The whole country was in the grip of a drought. No rain for many months, even years in some places, meant animals were dying from lack of feed, dams and waterways dried up to dirt and farm household water tanks were empty.

But the worst was yet to come. Fires tore through bushland, homes, buildings and property. It was very smoky outside, even in areas where there were no fires. One day in December, the city of Sydney was covered in smoke, even the Harbour Bridge was choking. People became sick with breathing problems, and the heat of summer made it even tougher to get through.

The Bushfires sent a shock all around the country. It was something Australia had witnessed before but not in as many places all at once. Firefighters, mostly volunteers, had an enormous job to do and it took months to finally put out all the fires, which limited things that people were able to do. Sadly, the fires killed approximately 480 Million animals and 75 people - some were firefighters.



# APS loves to write!

Author: Lani

## Corona Virus

On the 31<sup>st</sup> of December, a hospital in Wuhan China reported a mysterious "pneumonia" case from a cluster linked to a fish market in Wuhan. They later figured out that it was a highly contagious naturally made virus transmitted through animals. People coming back from China spread the disease and then it went all over the world forcing lockdown in many countries, including Australia, Italy, America, China, and the entire UK. In late March, Australia was in self isolation and discussing shutting down schools all over the country. While Italy and China were in full lockdown. In April lockdown started in Australia. Americans started protesting that they were losing their freedom. And America and China had a massive dispute over Americas President Donald Trump cancelling trading orders. In late May schools started to reopen in Australia. Italy was doing a thing called group immunity which later backfired and caused them to stay in lockdown even longer. By late June, the entire of UK was still in lockdown with 42,647 deaths. The unemployment rate was extremely high, and many countries' economies were plummeting.

Author: Evie

## My experience of 2019-2020

### My Place writing competition

#### December 2019

The bushfires had really hit us, smoke was everywhere. As I walked through the school gates it was like midnight, everything was quiet and creepy. I walked up the old brick stairs into my classroom and it was hectic, everyone had really lost it after not being able to go outside for a while now because of all the smoke. Sometimes it can take a few attempts to settle everyone down. It was a long day at school but still fun. Ring ring ring! The school day had finally ended, and we had a disco later. I was pumped! When I got home, I asked my mum when the disco was but instead of a yes it was a no! It was because of all the smoke. Ow!

# Band news from Mrs Mahony

This year our Adamstown School Band is being guided by 2020 Band Leaders, Lani and Tess. Social distancing has meant that our BandLink and BandFest events have been placed on hold, however we are still hoping that our band has the chance to play at Spring Winds Concert

at the Conservatorium in Term 4. Adamstown School Leaders will be interviewing our musicians and hopefully we will be able to play for our wider audience really soon.



## A message from our Primary Ethics Coordinator

Now that the COVID restrictions are easing, I am looking to the future of the Primary Ethics program at Adamstown Public School. My daughter is in Year 6 so before we know it we will be leaving this wonderful school community.

It's time for a new volunteer coordinator as well as new volunteer program teachers. Either role will take a short amount of time to go through the application and training process. Training is free and online. You will need to go through a criminal history check (small fee) and a Working with Children Check (free). The weekly commitment is between 1-2 hours after that.

Why are Ethics classes important? Ethics classes aim to support each child to develop a life-long capacity for critical thinking and moral reasoning. Other benefits can include gains in confidence, concentration and social behaviours.

Research demonstrates that there are flow-on effects from the style of education employed in ethics classes, including significant improvements on students' performance in mathematics, reading comprehension and writing tests. Volunteering is a stimulating way to contribute to our community and support the growth of our children.

What is an Ethics Teacher? Follow this link: <https://primaryethics.com.au/volunteer/ethics-teacher/>

What is an Ethics Coordinator Teacher? Follow this link: <https://primaryethics.com.au/volunteer/ethics-coordinator/>

Could this be you or someone you know? Questions? Call Mary Carthew on 0422 229 082 or check out the Primary Ethics website: <https://primaryethics.com.au/>

Thank you.



# Enrolling in Kindergarten for 2021 at The Greatest School Around

*Yes, It's that time already!*

Make sure you note the below dates on your calendar in readiness for our 2021 Kinder Orientation program. Should you know of any family who is looking to possibly enrol their child, whether it is Kindergarten or any other grade, please ask them to contact the office as soon as possible to ensure their details are on our 2021 database.

Our very popular 'Building Blocks' program will again be led by Mrs Sarah Wenham, ensuring connections with our local partnering Early Learning Centres and Preschools provide our incoming students with the very best transition to 'big school' possible.



## KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION TO SCHOOL

We are committed to the pursuit of excellence and the provision of high quality opportunities for every child.  
In our school every child is known, valued and cared for.



**School Readiness Information session**  
Monday 27th July, 6-7pm

**Kinder O' Expo**  
Thursday 20th August, 9:30 – 11:30am

**Kindergarten Transition to School**  
Thursday 10th September, 12:00 – 1:00pm  
Thursday 22nd October, 10:00 – 11:00am  
Thursday 5th November, 1:45 – 2:45pm  
Thursday 19th November, 10:00 – 11:00am

**ADAMSTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL:**  
1A Bryant St, Adamstown NSW 2289  
P 4957 1114  
E [adamstown-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:adamstown-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
[www.adamstown-p-schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.adamstown-p-schools.nsw.edu.au)

 Stay connected with Adamstown Public School



Adamstown Public School

## KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION TO SCHOOL



1A Bryant Street Adamstown NSW 2289 ☎ 4957 1114

✉ [adamstown-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:adamstown-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) 🌐 [www.adamstown-p.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://www.adamstown-p.schools.nsw.gov.au)



Stay up to date with what's happening at our school by downloading the SkoolBag App

# Need help booking your Parent Teacher Phone interview?



**Adamstown Public School**  
OPPORTUNITY INNOVATION SUCCESS



**Education**  
Public Schools

## Booking your Parent Teacher Phone Interview using Sentral Parent Portal

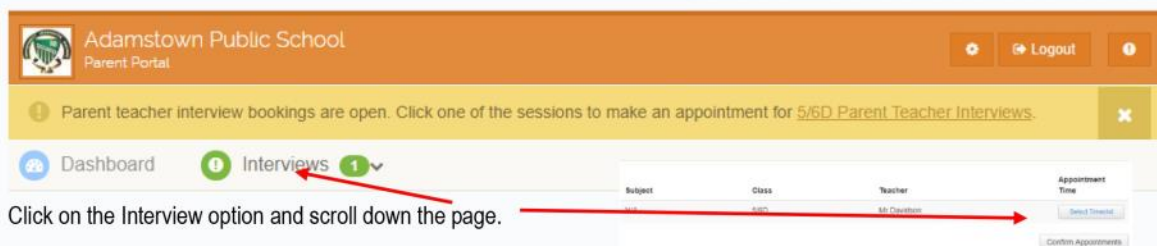
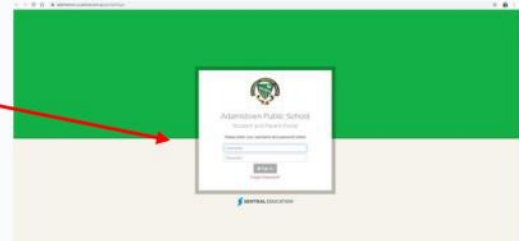
### For existing users

Go to <https://adamstown-p.sentral.com.au/portal/login>

Use your current login and username that you already have to enter.

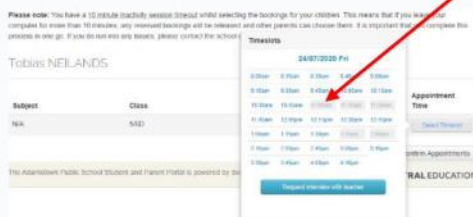
Once you enter you should be able to see your child/children.

In here you will be able to book your appointment time.



Click on the Interview option and scroll down the page.

Click on the Select Timeslot and follow the prompts to book your time.



Once you have booked your appointment an email will be sent to your nominated address. If you are on an iPhone and appointment reminder can be automatically downloaded to your calendar by clicking the download iCal button at the bottom.



## Frequently Asked Questions

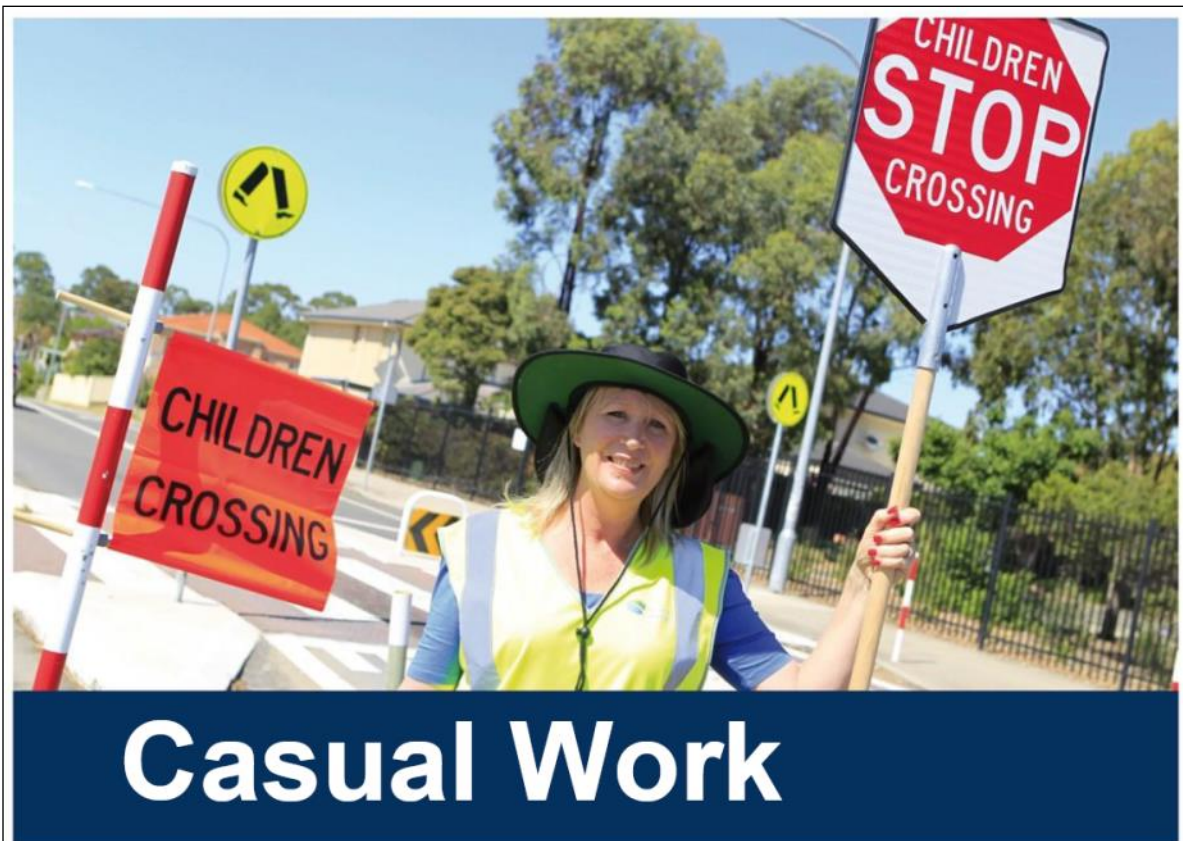
Below are some of the common issues encountered when booking parent appointments and how to resolve them.

Problem	Resolution
I can't remember my username or password	Your username is the email address that you used to create the account. To reset password select the 'Forgot Password?' link on the login page.
I don't have that email anymore	Contact the office and we will organise you a new access key for your child so that you can create a new account. We recommend using emails that are not linked to your service provider (such as Optus or Telstra) because if you change providers you lose the account.
One of my children is not in the list	Contact the office and we will be able to give you an access key for your child to be added to the account. Once logged in follow the prompts to add additional children to your account and book all appointments in one place.

**If you do not yet have a parent account you can create one then call or email the office for your Access Code to add your child or children.**



## Community announcement...



# Casual Work

1x Casual position – Newcastle Local Government Area - 4848

## Help protect our vibrant school communities

### Become a Casual School Crossing Supervisor!

- Keep our kids, parents and teachers safe on the road
  - Be a second pair of eyes for our local motorists
- Earn an income and still have time to live your life to the fullest

Shifts fall between the school zones hours 8.00am to 9.30am and 2.30pm to 4.00pm, with a minimum of one, one hour shift as and when required Monday to Friday during the school term.

### Does this sound like you?

- ✓ Reliable in good or bad weather
- ✓ Good communication skills
  - ✓ Community spirit
  - ✓ Positive energy
- ✓ If it does, visit or go to [iworkfor.nsw.gov.au](http://iworkfor.nsw.gov.au) to apply!

Applications close: Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2020



Transport  
Roads & Maritime  
Services