



Our 2022-2025 Vision:

To create an inclusive learning ecosystem that excels in a complex and evolving world.



Meet some friends from 2J making music with Mr Thornton

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

10am every Wednesday

Building Blocks 2023 Kinder Orientation Program

21 September- Year 2 Excursion

21 September- KHS Yr 6 GEM Session

22 September- National Day of Mourning, NSW Public Schools are non operational

23 September - Last day of Term 3 and last day of the P&C Silver Coin Challenge!

TERM 4

10 October - All students and staff return for start of Term 4

11 October - Girls PSSA Knockout Soccer

13 October - NSWPSA Girls Cricket Knockout

13 October - Let's Love Water K-2 Show

19 October - Bandfest

20 October - 2024 Selective High School Applications Open

20 October - Kindergarten Orientation Session 2

20 October - P&C Halloween Disco

24 October - Kindergarten excursion to Awabakal Environmental Centre

Communication

Platforms

SMS Messaging

Email

SkoolBag

Seesaw

Facebook

Sentral



MINDABOOKA Week 10 Term 3 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Community,

Week 10 certainly snuck up on us! What a term we have all shared. Our last few days are here, please join me in finishing the term strong, well and grateful for what our children, staff and community have collectively achieved this term, it has been pretty special at APS!

Assistant Principal, Curriculum and Instruction

Congratulations to Miss Tyler Anderson who was the successful applicant through the merit selection process for the Assistant Principal Curriculum & Instruction position at Adamstown Public School. The position will commence from day 1 2023, 5 days a week. The Assistant Principal, Curriculum and Instruction position is a new Department leadership role in every primary school. The position is dedicated to ensuring literacy and numeracy knowledge and skills are embedded in curriculum and assessment; that high quality teaching practices are enhanced; and that the capabilities of middle leaders are strengthened in literacy and numeracy instruction. The Assistant Principal, Curriculum and Instruction provides guidance and high impact professional learning to enhance teacher growth and development in literacy and numeracy. Miss Anderson will not have a teaching load but will work alongside teachers, co-planning and co-teaching in a continuous improvement process that seeks to uplift teaching skills and improve student outcomes.

Miss Anderson and I are very excited about this role and the positive impact it will have on our learning community.

Didge Group

It was wonderful to watch our didge group on Monday and have them learning with Dhinewan Mentoring again after a term of challenges with their instructors and lessons. I thanked the boys for their patience and commitment, persisting with their practice as lessons had been interrupted by staff shortages and illness. They are working towards an end of year performance

for presentation day and we can't wait to hear it.

Girls Sporting News

In the first week back from holidays our senior girls' soccer team will compete in the Hunter Region semi final game and our girls cricket team will continue to battle it out in the knockout competition. Both teams have been so successful in these competitions and we wish them all the best as they play in Term 4. Congratulations to them all on their success, sportsmanship and skill in each competition.

Check in Assessments

Year 6 are currently completing Check-in assessments, an online assessment that gives teachers a valuable snapshot of student learning so that they can differentiate instruction to cater for individual student needs. The data is analysed alongside other forms of assessment to assist in targeted teaching and learning.

Year 1 and Year 2 Excursions

Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed their first ever excursion last week to the Botanical Gardens and Blackbutt Reserve. The bush tucker tour was a highlight and we look forward to exploring possibilities from our APS Bush Tucker Garden as our garden flourishes for Spring. Year 2 are super excited about their excursion tomorrow to Tocal Homestead, keep an eye out on Facebook as we share all the fun from the day.

Updated Covid Isolation and Contact Regulations

Please see updated regulations and information on page 3 for your reference.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a well-deserved holiday. It has been absolutely wonderful to have our parents more involved in school events and be able to have these events back on the calendar. Hopefully this will be even more so as we head towards Term 4 and our many end of year celebrations. Enjoy and take care APS family.

Emma Stothard

Principal

Congratulations to our fortnightly merit award recipients...

KC Rosie, Molly, Paddy, Finlay	2J Tayah, Colbee, Lachlan, Chantelle	5/6L Ella, Skye, Christine, Zane, Luke
KM Alexia, Lexie, Sam, Abigail	3T Aurora, Hudson, Oscar, Jesse	Digital Technologies Mark, Liam D, Kruz, Mikayla
KW Sonny, Katie, Edison, Indie	3/4D Scarlett, Ezrae, Quinn, Joe	Library Finn B, Ruby M, Nora, Hudson K
K/1S Sammy, Grace, Leilani, Oliver	4C Wk 7 - Andy, Edward, Layla	Goldy PBL Voucher K-2 Louis, Kaia
1A Maximus, Archer, Finn, Jack	Myles	Goldy PBL Voucher 3-6 Tully, Layla T
1G Nora, Oscar, Louis, Flynn	Wk 9 - Kruz, David-James, Layla	Class Assembly Award KC & 3T
1/2C Quennie, Charli, Indie, Bond	5/6A Dyar, Shona, Noah, Kyara	APS Goldy Pin of Excellence Myles, Amelia, Raymond, Louis, Jordy
2H Kunkhen, Millah, Jake, Jack	5/6M Jarvis, Nicole, Arabella, Finn	



Join the Band in 2023 - We welcome any Year 2 students in Term 4!

Each Monday morning, the APS band meets with a qualified conductor. The APS band is for students in Years 3-6. Band members will need to attend weekly private lessons with a specialist tutor. Specialist tuition is very important to ensure the student's success on their instrument. The combination of band rehearsals and regular lessons assists students to develop the required level of confidence and knowledge on their instrument and the band repertoire. Students can use their own instrument, or we have a tenor saxophone, saxophone, trombone, bass clarinet and trumpet to hire.

In Term 4, we would like to welcome any Year 2 students who may be interested in joining the band next year to band rehearsals. They can attend from 8:30am on Mondays at no charge and will be encouraged to join in on percussion (supplied) to support the band and see if band is something they'd like to be involved in next year!



22 September public holiday

National Day of Mourning for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

MAD Awards

Our school captain was presented with a leadership award at the Muloobinbah LAECG 'MAD' (Make A Difference) Awards.

Congratulations Jarrah, we are extremely proud of your accomplishments!



Why Attendance Matters—End of Week 9, Term 3

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS TO BE AWAY FROM SCHOOL?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance e.g. attending a funeral.

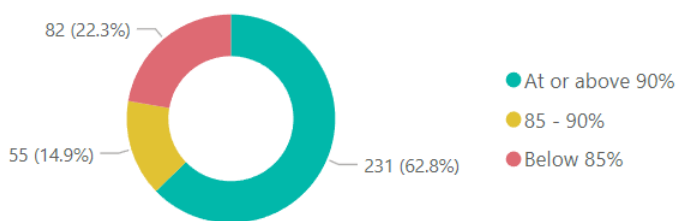
Following an absence from school you must ensure that within seven (7) days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within two (2) days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence. Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the Principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why. Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long-term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the Principal can record the absences as unjustified.

T3 Week 9 2022:	KC	KM	KW	K/1S	1G	1A	1/2C	2J	2H	3T	3/4D	4C	5/6A	5/6L	5/6M
Class Attendance	93.18	91.91	90.38	90.39	92.64	91.37	90.89	90.78	88.92	88.56	88.73	87.38	86.07	86.38	87.73

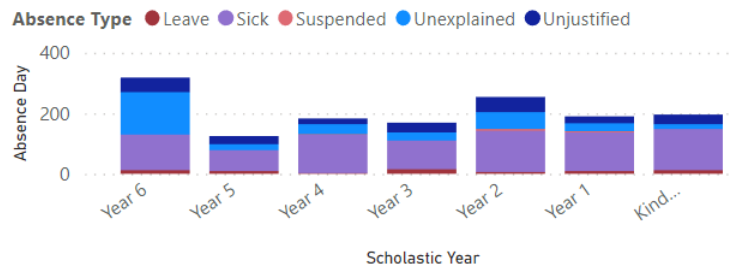
OVERALL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE end of Week 9 T3: 90.3%

The below is a representation of attendance data at APS end of week 9. Students attending >=90% of the time in Semester 1 was 48.9%, as of end of week 9 attending >=90% of the time is 62.8%, still continuing to grow towards our target of 85%. Please contact the school if we can support with attendance. Don’t forget to notify the school to explain any absences via written note, a phone call to the office, responding to the SMS message or a Skoolbag notification, this is still a big area that needs improvement for our children. **Thank you everyone for putting the children's education front and centre by ensuring they have every opportunity to learn.**

Attendance Level



Absences by Cohort, Absence Type



Updated Covid Isolation and Close Contact Regulations

Current Covid Isolation Regulations

- If your child is a close contact you are requested to report this to the school
- If a student receives a positive RAT test, parents need to:
 - record the positive RAT result through the [Service NSW website](#) or Service NSW app – and add details of the child's school or early childhood education centre
 - notify the school of the positive RAT or PCR test result as soon as possible
 - follow [NSW Health advice](#) to isolate for 5 days.
- Students and staff should not be at school if they are sick or display symptoms. The same processes remain in place regarding sending students to sick bay if they are displaying Covid like symptoms.
- Please refer to the [NSW Government’s COVID-19](#) pages if you have questions or concerns about testing and isolation requirements.
- If you are unsure whether to send your child to school or not please contact the office for advice.

Close Contact Covid Regulations

- Close contacts attending school will need to adhere to the following in addition to the NSW Health guidelines:
- Parents must notify the school, including OOSH, (outside of school hours care provider) if their child is a close contact, with no symptoms, if intending to attend school. Schools are required to maintain this record.
 - If attending school as a close contact (with no symptoms) you should conduct a daily rapid antigen test (RAT) and return a negative result each morning before attending school for 5 school days.
 - Primary school students are recommended to wear a mask indoors if they are a close contact. (except when eating or exercising).
 - No student or staff member identified as a close contact will be permitted to participate in overnight excursions.
 - Any visitor to a school site who is a close contact is required to advise the school that they are a close contact before they come on site. These visitors should conduct a daily RAT and return a negative result before attending. They must also wear a mask indoors at all times. Schools should consider if the visit can be conducted virtually.

Year 6 Kotara High School Taster Lessons

Our Year 6 students attended taster lessons at Kotara High School last week. This allowed our school leaders to familiarise themselves with their exciting new chapter by completing a variety of activities which mirror a normal day at high school. We can't believe these wonderful children only have one term left at our school.



Kinder 2023 Teddy Bear's Picnic

Our 2023 Kindergarten friends joined us for our very special Teddy Bears Picnic. Our Year 5 and 6 students did an excellent job making our guests feel welcome by guiding them through lots of enjoyable activities. Thank you to our Early Stage 1 team for organising this wonderful afternoon.



Enrolling in Kindergarten for 2023 at The Greatest School Around

Our 2023 Kinder Transition and Building Blocks program is well underway. Transition sessions are advertised on the following pages. Should you know of any family who is looking to enrol their child, please ask them to contact the office as soon as possible to enable their details to be included in our 2023 database. Alternatively, if you know of someone leaving our school please also ask them to contact the office to advise.

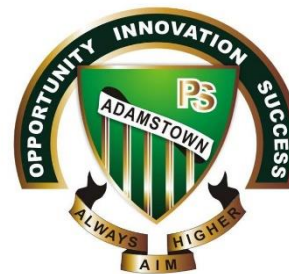
KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION PROGRAM 2023

Our Kindergarten Information and Orientation program is set out below for our 2023 kinder students.

The child-centred activities are designed to help our new students settle into school and to provide families with all the information needed to help make the transition to school a smooth and happy experience.

*We look forward to welcoming you into our
Adamstown School family*

Monday 25th July 5:30-6:30pm	School Readiness Information Session To send or not to send? (parent & carers only if possible) In person and via Zoom available
Thursday 18th August 9:30-11:30am	Kinder O Expo (parents and carers only)
Thursday 15th September 12-1pm	Teddy Bear Picnic with Buddies (bring your teddies and lunch with you) Children will also have a school canteen experience
Thursday 20th October 10-11am	Joining the Teacher Librarian in the Library for story time
Thursday 3rd November 10-11am	Fundamental Movement Skills <i>Uniform Shop open</i>
Thursday 10th November	Creative Arts Lesson <i>Uniform Shop open</i>



***Tell Them From Me* student survey:** **Information for parents and consent form for parents and carers**

Dear Parents and Carers

In Term 4, our school is taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help them improve. The survey is completed online and is run by an independent research company, **The Learning Bar** which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will **not** be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. The survey typically takes 30 minutes or less to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), has access to data from across NSW and is running a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research is looking at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students' personal information will **not** be disclosed by the department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable, he/she can choose to stop the survey at any time. The majority of questions in the survey can be skipped.

If you **do not want your child to take part** in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to the school by Friday 14 October 2022.

More information about the survey and the research is available at education.nsw.gov.au/ttfm

Emma Stothard
Principal
Adamstown School

Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey non-consent form

If you **do not want** your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to the school by Friday 14 October 2022.

I DO NOT give consent for my child/children to participate in the ***Tell Them From Me student feedback survey***.

Name of student 1

Roll class of student 1

.....

Name of student 2

.....

Roll class of student 2

.....

Name of student 3

.....

Roll class of student 3

.....

Name of student 4

.....

Roll class of student 4

.....

Name of parent/carer

.....

Signature of parent/carer

.....

Date

Tune in: experience, discover, join in and connect

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH
OCTOBER

Discover what's on these school holidays @Share our Space

Connection Calendar for children

Tune In and connect to your friends, your family, your community and your mental health and wellbeing.

Click through the calendar or use the link below to explore and connect

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
26 See if your school is open through the Share our Space program	27 Draw a family logo	28 Start your day with 5 mindful moments	29 Before dinner, talk about the best thing that happened today. What made it so good?	30 Plan a fun exercise you will do every day during October	1 Make a list of your 5 favourite songs	2 Make a map of your neighbourhood
3 Have a day without TV, computers or consoles	4 Write a note to a friend and put it in their letterbox	5 Share a game, toy, book with a friend or someone in your family – and think how the new owner might use them	6 Create an obstacle course with household items – and beat your best time	7 Try box breathing, it's as easy as 1,2,3,4	8 Discover new fun and healthy food ideas	9 Get ready for the start of Term 4 – pack bags, sort clothes, and have an early night
10 World Mental Health Day Tune In to you	11 Find out which famous or historical people you share your birthday with and learn five new things about them	12 Learn a new joke to tell at dinner time	13 Lay quietly and listen to calming sounds. What do you hear?	14 Think about someone you admire, what values do you share with them?	15 Arrange to meet up with a friend	16 Do a 'Just Dance' challenge from Youtube with your family
17 Discover your local Aboriginal language	18 Help out with a chore that you usually don't do	19 Sketch or photograph your favourite spot	20 Finish an old craft project you started – or start a new one!	21 Create a lucky dip of favourite movie titles – for a family movie night with the lucky draw	22 Complete a journal entry each day for a week	23 Offer to help cook dinner
24 Try and have 5 glasses of water today	25 Go to bed early and read a book	26 Before you go to sleep – try a calming countdown	27 Use an old jar and plant some seeds and see what grows	28 Today is World Teachers' Day	29 Create your own game and show someone how to play it	30 Grandparents' Day – if you can, call your grandparents and have a chat

31
[Kids Helpline is a safe and easy way to share any worries you might have. 1800 55 180](#)

education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/mental-health-month

HEALTH

Tune in: experience, discover, join in and connect

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH
OCTOBER

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>26 See if your school is open through Share our Space</p>	<p>27 Create a family logo</p>	<p>28 Start your day with 5 mindful moments</p>	<p>29 Before dinner, talk about the best thing that happened today. What made it so good?</p>	<p>30 Sign up for Black Dog one foot forward walking challenge</p>	<p>1 Kick off the month by creating your ultimate 'feel good' playlist</p>	<p>2 Explore your neighbourhood. Let your kids decide where to turn and see where you end up</p>
<p>3 Tech-free day. Enjoy reading, walking, cooking or playing family boardgames together</p>	<p>4 Give your plants some TLC</p>	<p>5 Donate 5 items each to charity – and think how the new owner might use them</p>	<p>6 Create an obstacle course with household items – and beat your best time</p>	<p>7 Spend 5 minutes on your own and focus on your breathing</p>	<p>8 Enjoy a family 'cook in' where everyone helps to cook – and clean up, and if you can, give to a good cause</p>	<p>9 Get ready for the start of Term 4 – pack bags, sort clothes, and have an early night</p>
<p>10 World Mental Health Day – Tune In to you and your mental health</p>	<p>11 Grab a coffee/tea or sparkling water and read a book outdoors</p>	<p>12 Wish a student doing their HSC good luck</p>	<p>13 Lay quietly and listen to the sounds of your home. What do you hear?</p>	<p>14 Consider volunteering in your local area, as a family</p>	<p>15 Phone a friend for a chat and a laugh</p>	<p>16 Do a 'Just Dance' challenge from Youtube with your family</p>
<p>17 Discover new apps</p>	<p>18 Do something kind for yourself</p>	<p>19 Ever tried origami? Today might be the day.</p>	<p>20 Take up an old skill or hobby or try a new one</p>	<p>21 Movie night. A classic you love or a new release. Don't forget the popcorn and PJs</p>	<p>22 Try eating something new – and fresh</p>	<p>23 Spring clean a spot where you like to spend time</p>
<p>24 Stay hydrated today. Drink your recommended water intake.</p>	<p>25 Watch Old People's Home for teenagers series on iView</p>	<p>26 Before you go to sleep – try a calming countdown</p>	<p>27 Share your feelings with someone you trust, and listen to them as well</p>	<p>28 Recognise World Teachers' Day</p>	<p>29 Stay active</p>	<p>30 Grandparents' Day, and share a family memory or photo</p>

31
[Write down any worries you have, and put them into perspective. And contact help if you need it](#)

education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/mental-health-month



APS P&C NEWSLETTER

adamstownpublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au
SUPPORTING THE 'GREATEST SCHOOL AROUND'

WELCOME TO TERM 3, WEEK 10!

A final hello in Term 3 as the school community gets ready to take a much-needed two-week break.

In this fortnight's newsletter, catch the latest news on the **SILVER COIN CHALLENGE**, **BIRTHDAY BUCKETS** and the **HALLOWEEN DISCO**.

Plus, we say a heartfelt thank-you to a valued member of our school community who is moving on to new adventures.

Have a wonderful week!

From everyone at the P&C



SAVE THE DATE

Guaranteed to be the spookiest event on the calendar, the HALLOWEEN DISCO is happening from 5pm on Thursday, October 20.

A pre-pay option for tickets is available via QKR – the \$6 entry includes a sausage sandwich, drink and a trick-or-treat lolly bag!

Start planning those costumes and stay tuned for more info.

WHAT'S ON...

Friday September 23 (Week 10): The SILVER COIN CHALLENGE – bring coins to school or add 50c to your online or QKR order.

Thursday October 20 (Week 2): HALLOWEEN DISCO – pre-pay your entry now via QKR.

Monday November 21 (Week 7): KOORI-KLAUS – Christmas photos with Uncle John.

Term 4: P&C MANGO DRIVE – more details to come.



TERM 4 BIRTHDAYS

A reminder that orders for **BIRTHDAY BUCKETS** in Term 4 are now open via the QKR app.

Birthday buckets are the easiest way to celebrate students' birthdays with their classmates. Plus, the kids love them!



Join us on
facebook

Click the image above to join our P&C Facebook page or go to www.facebook.com/adamstownpublicschoolpandc/



FAREWELL TO MRS RESCHOW

APS P&C sadly announces the retirement of our Canteen Manager Jenny Reschow.

Jenny has been an amazing asset to our school community, running the canteen for four years as an employee and many more years as a volunteer before this.

Jenny will officially finish up with the school canteen on Friday, December 16, 2022.

The P&C recognises the impressive job Jenny has done over the years, seeing the school grow and leading a large group of volunteers.

The COVID pandemic has made the last two years challenging. However, the canteen survived, and through Jenny's dedication, hard work and commitment, has kept moving forward. Each week, Jenny has welcomed the children with a smiling face and nutritious food.

Jenny, you are leaving some big shoes to fill, but we know with your brilliant management and co-ordination skills, everything will be in perfect shape for a new canteen manager.

The school community would like to wish you the very best in retirement, wherever that may take you.



LAST CALL FOR COINS

It's the final week of Term 3 – and the SILVER COIN CHALLENGE.

Time to round up any coins left lying around at home or in the car to send in with the kids for the final week of collecting.

Week 2 saw a lot of coins rolling in once again – thank you! – with 2H and 3/4D claiming the lead.

2H utilised the canteen add-on option to help push them into the lead last week. It's a really easy option available via QKR and the online store to help boost the class tally.

A pizza party and a special runner up prize are up for grabs for the winning classes.

The challenge closes on Friday, September 23.

