Welcome Back
Welcome to AWPS 2013. We’re off to an exceptional start for the year with both new and established students settling in easily and coping well with work and play, doing all the right things as expected. The tone of the school is really positive and comfortable.

Our new Kindergarten students were welcomed by their buddies last Thursday and were so excited starting ‘real school’. The 2012 transition program certainly made their start easy with the buddies in action supporting students each morning in the Kindergarten classrooms. We are very proud of this leadership group.

Mrs Rebecca Bourke has returned to us this year - she is most impressed with our students, especially her class. Our student numbers have entitled us to 5 classes. Classes for 2013 are:

K/1B  Mrs Rebecca Bourke / Mrs Lisa Bradshaw
K/1C  Mrs Amanda Church
2/3G  Mrs Leisa Grantham
3/4/5K Mrs Christina Klein
5/6B  Mr John Beattie

We do especially welcome all of our new families. Make yourselves known to the staff and other parents and take the opportunity to become involved in your child’s education through one of the many avenues as a parent helper in the classroom, canteen or assisting with sport. Your help will be much appreciated, so keep an eye out for these invitations.

P&C meetings, held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm, are a great way to meet others, find out what is happening at school and contribute ideas. The first P&C meeting will be held next week – please find attached an information sheet about the P&C.
There is an open door approach at AWPS and we appreciate any concerns or issues being nipped in the bud. Do not let any matter brew. It is always better to attain a quick solution and this is done with your child’s best interests in mind. Teachers are happy to meet with you, but it is best to organise an appointment as they cannot discuss matters whilst on class or entering the classroom ready to start the day with students. If the matter can’t wait please call into the front office and I will help you. Mrs Terrill, the School Counsellor is also available on Tuesdays to consult with students and /or parents.

**General School Contributions**
A General School Contribution letter is attached. Whilst voluntary, this is the only funding we request to support the programs and resources in the school. You are guaranteed it is all spent on resources used this year with your children. The contribution is low compared to other schools, and a small price to pay for the value gained at AWPS. We rely on a high return to help meet the needs of each curriculum area.

**Media Consent**
Throughout the year, our school engages in promoting itself and the achievements of our students in the newspapers, on radio, TV, video, web page and of course, in our newsletter. We are aware that some parents may **NOT** wish for their child’s photo, name or achievement to be made public. Please complete the note attached and return it to the office as soon as possible.

**Health Care Plans**
If there are any students who require a specific Health Care Plan please let us know so our records are updated. We post photos and details of all students who have allergies, asthma or other medical conditions in the office and staffroom and we need correct details on file.

**School Hats**
Another reminder that broad-brimmed school hats are a must every day this term. Caps will not be accepted as hats as they are not protective and are not part of our school uniform. In this hot weather any student without a hat will be supervised under the COLA.

**Swimming Carnival**
Our school swimming carnival will be held on Thursday 21st February. Please ensure all notes and money are returned before then.

**Leadership 2013**
We will, once again, include students from 2/3G and 3/4/5K on the SRC. These positions will change at the start of each term. This will allow several of our younger students the opportunity to learn more about leadership and meeting procedure. We hope that by creating these new positions and responsibilities students will feel more empowered and involved in the decision making processes that take place within the school.

Newly elected members include: Searn Maher, Maverick Parker, Evelyn Brew and Blake Seymour. They will join Harris Riddell, Tiarna Whybrow, Alex Howard, Narjic Lacey-Bird, Blade Parker and Blair Wilson who were elected as leaders at the end of last year.

Students in Years 4 – 6 have been asked to apply for positions as a Library Assistant or Technowizz. These roles will be vital in helping students and staff with the organisation of the library and computer trouble shooting. The names of the Library Assistants and Technowizz’s are detailed in the Library News below.

Congratulations to the following students who have been successful in being elected as house leaders. Banksia Captains are Tiarna Whybrow and Blair Wilson. Banksia Vice Captains are Nivetha Pathmanathan and Jarrod Irving. Boronia Captains are Sarah Shoemark and Narjic Lacey-Bird. Boronia Vice Captains are Raiyne Peatey and Harris Riddell. Waratah Captains are Abby Squire and Alex Howard. Waratah Vice Captains are Chevy Parker and Blade Parker.
Induction Ceremony
Mr Toohey, Deputy Principal of Albury High School, will be attending this very important ceremony for our student leaders on Friday 22nd February. AWPS has a proud history of leadership development opportunities through a wide range of activities. Already Harris and Tiarna have proven their worth as Captains, and they are well supported by Alex and Narjic as vice captains. Also inducted at this ceremony will be the new SRC members, house leaders and newly created positions of leadership this year - Library Assistant and Technowizz’s.

Picnic with the Principal
Picnic with the principal will continue again this year. Teachers are asked to choose a student at the end of each month to receive this award. This is a reward that recognises students who show respect, responsibility and care. Students in Kindergarten to Year 6, who are named as recipients get a chance to enjoy lunch with me on a Monday. During this private lunch, students can discuss what is happening at the school and we can speak about the fun and exciting things going on at the school. This is a great opportunity for students to voice their opinions and let's not forget the lunch is DELICIOUS!!

Attendance
Attending school is compulsory and hence the Department is undertaking legal action in the case of parents who do not fulfil these obligations despite all reasonable measures put in place at school. As principal I am obligated to notify the Home School Liaison Officer, Nathan Honeyman, of any student’s erratic or unexplained absences. We also become very concerned when students arrive at school after 9:00am. Please send an explanation note with each absence so class rolls can be kept up to date. We encourage students to aim for a 100% attendance certificates.

Water
Pack a water bottle for your child each day and remind them that they can also get water from the taps or bubblers throughout the day.

Mobile phones
Students are not permitted to have a mobile phone at school. Students at Albury West Public School may only bring mobile phones to school if there is a need for them to be able to contact their parents either before arriving at school or in the afternoon after leaving school.

A student with a mobile phone at school must check it in at the school office upon arrival at school. It is to be turned off and kept secure in the front office. It is the student’s responsibility to collect the phone at the end of the school day.

The above procedures applying to the use and security of mobile phones, apply equally to the use of portable computer games, software, MP3 players, IPods and similar devices. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Crossing
A very special reminder to our parents and students that our school crossing is manned in the morning and the afternoon by an employee of the RTA to keep our children safe when they are crossing the road before and after school.

Please make sure that everyone crosses the road at the right spot and that you are never in so big a hurry either driving past the crossing or walking your children to the crossing that someone is injured. We have had a few near misses recently and it’s time for everyone to be vigilant so that our children are safe.

Sharon Julien
Principal

Student Banking
Student banking with Hume Building Society will recommence next Tuesday 12th February. This year Hume will be launching the new Junior Saver Club with great new educational books, rewards, activities, saving certificates. Stay tuned!!
### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**A 2013 Term 1 calendar is attached to this newsletter.**

### February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 8th</td>
<td>Assembly – 11.50am – SRC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 11th</td>
<td>Active After School – Table Tennis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13th</td>
<td>Active After School - Frisbee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 15th</td>
<td>Assembly – 11.50am - 5/6B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 21st</td>
<td>Scholastic Book Club orders due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 22nd</td>
<td>Assembly – induction of leaders – 11.50am</td>
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### P&C News - Canteen

With another year upon us the AWPS Canteen Committee welcomes everyone back at school and looks forward to another good year. Our Canteen is run by the school P&C Association and is open every day at recess and lunchtime offering a range of hot foods, sandwiches, snacks and drinks. Students who wish to buy lunch must place their order and money, before 9.00am, in the box provided at the Canteen. Counter sales of drinks, cupcakes, popcorn, milkshakes, etc are available at both recess and lunchtime. We will continue with the very popular Wednesday Warmer Specials program. Each Tuesday a note goes home with students detailing the next day’s special lunch order - no other lunch orders are available that day, though counter sales will be as normal. The new menu is being finalised now and will be distributed as soon as possible.

The Canteen is managed by Canteen Supervisor, Alison Mildenhall, but relies heavily on the assistance of parents, carers and friends to help out. We would love to see as many parents as possible volunteering their services, even if it is just for a short period once or twice per term. If you think you would like to help please fill out the accompanying form and drop it back into the office by the end of next week. Assistance is usually in the form of serving students, helping with orders, preparing lunches and tidying up. Wednesdays are the busiest days but any assistance you can offer is greatly appreciated. For more information come in and see Alison.

### Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is open for business again. We are located behind the hall and stock both new and second-hand uniforms, at very good prices. The shop is run by the P&C and staffed by volunteers – thank you to Sharon McNair and Kristie Collis who have agreed to manage the shop this year. Opening hours will remain the same – 8.40 - 9.15am on Tuesday mornings. A complete price list of all uniform items will be sent home with the next newsletter.

If you are unable to get to school when the Uniform Shop is open there are order forms available at the office which you can fill out requesting a particular item. This item will be brought up to the office within a couple of days and you can collect it at your convenience. Payment must be received before the item can be taken home. Please enquire at the office for further details.

We try to have a varied selection of second-hand stock and rely on families to donate any uniforms which their children have outgrown. If you have unused uniform items at home which are still in good condition please consider donating them to our shop.
**Melrose FC Fun Day** - Sunday 10th February at Melrose Park, Barlow St, Lavington from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

To introduce Small Sided Soccer to new players, MFC are holding a Family Fun Day. Children can play with a Melrose FC team at an age as young as 5 years old. Family friendly fun and fitness encouraging girl and boy players of all ages and skills. Come along and have a kick with the seniors and coaches. Food and drink supplied.

“Come and try soccer” every Wednesday at 5pm at Melrose.
Contact number 0438 443 023 or [www.melrosefc.com](http://www.melrosefc.com)

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**Flying Fruit Circus**

Saturday Circus Arts Program teaches a range of circus skills in a fun, non-competitive and safe environment, led by experienced, national respected trainers, alongside senior circus students. Children develop a strong sense of hand-eye coordination and physical confidence, while learning lessons about working with others.

Term date: 2 February – 23 March

9:15am – 10:15am for 4 – 5 years – cost per term $136.00
10:30am – 12:00pm for 6 – 7 years – cost per term $170.00
1:00 – 3:00pm for 8 years and up – cost per term $153.00
3:15 – 5:15pm for 8 years and up – cost per term $153.00

Come and Try Session – Saturday 9 February at 3:15pm for $20
605 Hovell Street Albury NSW 2640 Tel: 02 6043 0777

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**Albury Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group – AGM Meeting.**

Closed meeting for parents, community members and aboriginal workers.
Wednesday 13th February from 2pm to 3pm at Hume Public School.
Please come along and support your child’s education.
Contact Cathie Egan on 6051 4333

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**FALCONS HOCKEY CLUB.**

Registration day: Sun 24th Feb 10am – noon
Alexandra Park (Albury Hockey Centre)

_New players always welcome._

Email falconshockey@hotmail.com.au
Website: www.falconshockeyalbury.com.au

_New u9 teams in 2013_

Junior Training (U9 to U16) 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm Thursdays (starts March)
Senior Training 6:00 pm to 8pm Thursdays (starts 7th Feb)

Ph: 6021 2288 FAX: 6041 3783
Email: alburywest-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

**Respect, Responsibility, Care.**
Can parents make a difference to a child's success at school?

YES! They can.

There is a positive and convincing relationship between family involvement and benefits for students, including improved academic achievement. This relationship holds across families of all economic, racial/ethnic and educational backgrounds and for students at all ages.

Helping Your Child Succeed at School
Share your ideas about the importance of education with your child. If you begin to think about goals, your child will, too. Talk about colleges and universities in your area, careers that you find interesting, or people you have met that seemed to enjoy their work. Let your student know that they have many educational possibilities!

Be careful to pass on negative attitudes about school that may be a part of your own past experience. Without realizing it, you could start your child off on the wrong foot by recalling bad memories from your own school days. Giving children the idea that school is too difficult, that teachers are unfair, or that school isn’t important will discourage them from doing well. Instead, talk about your friends from school, your favourite teachers or your best subject. If school was a bad experience for you, you might tell them you made the mistake of not liking school and you don’t want them to do the same.

Things you can do to help your child experience success:

- A positive attitude about school is perhaps the most important gift you can give your child.
- Help your child set education goals, both short term and long term. Talk to your child about the future and plans for further education. Tell your child you hope they will be successful in school.
  - A short-term goal may be finishing a writing assignment by Sunday night.
  - A long-term goal could be attending a university after high school.
- Talk to your child about what they are learning at school. It’s important to ask students about their school subjects. Ask open-ended questions about their class work — questions that can’t be answered with a “yes” or “no.” Share any knowledge you have, and if you are curious, read the textbook!
- Help your child get organized to do homework.
- Make family rules about study. Decide with your child on a good time to do study and stick to that schedule as much as possible. Have the family give support by giving your HSC student the quiet they need. Try to keep noise down during study times.
ALBURY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

CANTEEN HELPERS WANTED

The Albury West Public School Canteen is open every school day, at recess and lunch times, and is administered by the Canteen Committee, a subcommittee of the P. & C. It is managed on a day-to-day basis by a Canteen Supervisor. The Canteen relies heavily on volunteer helpers and the assistance of parents, carers and friends is requested so that a roster of helpers can be drawn up. The Canteen is especially busy on Wednesdays (due to our regular Wednesday Warmers/Wonderful Wednesday Specials), but can also be quite busy on Thursdays and Fridays. Any assistance that can be offered by parents and other volunteers is gratefully received. Assistance is usually in the form of serving students, helping with orders, preparing lunches and tidying up.

Please return this form as soon as possible in the new term.

NAME _________________________________________________________
PHONE NUMBER _______________________________________________
ELDEST CHILD _____________________________ CLASS___________
I would like to help in the Canteen (please tick)

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<tr>
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<th>Recess 11:00 – 11.25am</th>
<th>Lunch 1.00 – 1.30pm</th>
<th>Both 11:00am – 1:30pm</th>
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<td>MONDAY</td>
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<td>FRIDAY</td>
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How often are you available to help? (Please circle)
Weekly    Fortnightly    Monthly

Are you available for EMERGENCY calls?  Yes    No
Which days? ______________________________________________________

PLEASE NOTE: Insurance regulations mean that the following are not covered for any injury occurring in the Canteen Work Areas - pre-school children, pregnant helpers and helpers over the age of 65 years. All such individuals are there at their own risk (or the risk of the parent/carer if applicable).

Thank you for your anticipated assistance.

CANTEEN COMMITTEE

Respect, Responsibility, Care.