Term 1, Week 8 – 21st March, 2013

Athletics Carnival

Albury Gold Cup
A timely reminder - once again schools will be given a half day public holiday for the Albury Gold Cup which will be held TOMORROW. PLEASE NOTE that bus companies are also entitled to the half day public holiday and as such earlier collections will not be available. I am asking that you make alternative arrangements to pick children up at 12pm TOMORROW.

P&C AGM
Last week the P&C held its 2013 AGM. During this meeting the 2013 Executive was voted in. Before welcoming our new office bearers, on behalf of our school community we would like to thank our outgoing P&C President Lew Reid for his wonderful leadership and the commitment shown to our school last year. Special thanks also to Brenda Kausche and Alison Mildenhall who have sadly moved on to high school committees.

Our P&C Executive for 2013 will be:
President: Shanthan Pathmanathan
Vice-President: Ken Deal
Treasurer: Chris Horn
Secretary: Jenny Squire
Canteen Supervisor: Alison Mildenhall
Clothing Pool Co-ordinators: Kristie Collis and Sharon McNair
Fundraising Co-ordinator: Shelly Riddell

I would like to make special mention of, and say, thank you to our amazing P & C who continue to support our school and students. This group of dedicated people are vital to the successful running of our school. I would ask all our parents to consider joining us in the P & C for 2013.
School Excursions
Please keep payments coming in for end of year school excursions. Remember we accept and encourage small regular payments so that you don’t have to make a big payment just prior to the excursion. Don’t forget that Eftpos is now available at the front office.

Harmony Day
Harmony Day was held today, with our students participating in a variety of multicultural activities including cooking, beading, kite building, playing games and craft activities. It was certainly a great day for all of our students.
A special thank you to Mr Beattie who co-ordinated the wonderful day.

Uniform
With the weather turning cooler it is time to remind all parents and students about labelling school uniform items. Jumpers and coats tend to get left behind at school if they are worn in the morning when it is cooler and then taken off as the day warms up. Losing parts of your school uniform can be expensive so I encourage all parents to take the time to put name labels in all clothing.

I am concerned that we have a few students who are not wearing the correct school uniform to school. In winter time we ask that students wear a grey or gold jumper to school. These jumpers should not have hoods attached – hoodies are not school uniform. Jumpers that are pink, purple, red etc. should not be worn to school. I thank you for your continued support in this matter.

Grand friends Day
Our Grand friends Day will be held on Friday 5th April. Grand friends are invited into classrooms at 10.30am to assist students with their learning in literacy and numeracy. A special morning tea is being provided by our hard working P&C. Student art work will be on display and for sale for a gold coin donation. Photos will be taken of students with their grandparents which can be purchased from the P&C at a later date. The SRC have a special assembly planned which will be followed by a BBQ to celebrate the conclusion of “Celebrate Attendance Month”. We do hope that you are able to come along to this very special day on the AWPS calendar.

Persuasive Question
“Try to convince your family why dogs make better pets than cats.” This year our school will be focusing heavily on teaching all children how to write ‘persuasively’. This form of writing will be assessed in the National Assessment for Year 3 and 5 students. We will be providing you with some topics to discuss at the dinner table over the coming weeks. As a family, it would be wonderful to take a stance on the weekly subject and justify it with logical and well thought out reasons - more than just ‘because’. (We hope the conversations don’t end up in arguments!)

Crossing Point Learning Community Activities
Our learning community has commenced transition programs already this year. The Crossing Point Learning Community is made up of schools that feed into Albury High School: Albury, Albury West and Howlong. Last Wednesday all of our Year 6 students headed to AHS for a taste of high school and I attended a meeting with the principals.

How2Learn
Last week Leisa Grantham, Christina Klein and Lynne Johnston participated in professional development in HOW2Learn – a Riverina Learning Strategy. This two day training session was on how to build learning capacity in classrooms and ways to make our students stronger and more independent 21st Century Learners. Further training days will be coming throughout the year. There were many valuable concepts and ideas gained from this, most of which I am sure will be making their way directly into our classrooms. Refer to page attached for more details about this initiative.

Respect, Responsibility, Care.
Albury District Council of P&C Meeting

Albury District Council of P&C Assoc. invites all interested parents and P&C Members to our Annual General Meeting. It will be held at Albury North Public School (Mate St, North Albury) on Thursday 4th April, at 7.30 pm. Our Guest Speakers for the night will cover the Roles and Responsibilities of the executive positions of P&C Committees. Please come along to gain knowledge, ask questions and meet other members, particularly if you are new to a role or the workings of a P&C Committee. For further enquiries phone Donna Davidson 60210103.

Sharon Julien
Principal

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<th>DATES FOR YOUR DIARY</th>
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<tr>
<th>Merit Certificates</th>
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<td>K/1B</td>
<td>Bryce Bormann, Stephanie McNair-Eade</td>
<td>Jordan Fraser</td>
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<td>K/1C</td>
<td>Iona Ambrym, Thomas Stevens</td>
<td>Harley Gill</td>
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<td>Hailey Campbell, Jazzay Sallah</td>
<td>Chantelle Stevens</td>
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<td>Abby Squire, Blake Elliott</td>
<td>Ashleigh Harman</td>
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<td>5/6B</td>
<td>Tiarna Whybrow, Nivetha Pathmanathan</td>
<td>Isabelle Williams</td>
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Easter Hat Parade – Tuesday 26\textsuperscript{th} March at 10.00am. All parents and friends welcome to attend and see the wonderful hats the K-6 have been making.
**Year 2 & 3 Virtual Zoo Excursion**

We are going to trial a Virtual Excursion. This virtual excursion is for Year 2 and 3 students to support their literacy learning. The video conference link with the Taronga Zoo will take place in our school computer lab.

The students in Year 2 and 3 have been reading the book “Stellaluna” and have been studying “bats” to increase their literacy skills. The Taronga Zoo and Literature Live have joined together to provide a virtual excursion to combine animals and books. It is designed to excite and inspire children to learn about bats and enjoy reading books and writing. The session will feature Aleesha Darlison, children’s author, and a zoo educator – plus some very special live animal guests. The students will have a chance to ask questions throughout the 45 minute presentation.

Unfortunately the virtual excursion had to be cancelled on the 6th March. The excursion will now be held on **Tuesday 2nd April** in the computer lab at school.

We are very excited about trialling the “virtual excursion” at our school and would like all our Year 2 /3 students to be involved.

If your child has already returned their permission note, they **will not** need to complete another note. A new note will be sent home shortly to those children who have not returned notes.

Thanks – Lynne Johnston & Leisa Grantham

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**Scholastic Book Club** – special “Clearance Sale” brochures were sent home yesterday. If you would like to order from this special catalogue, please return orders by next Thursday 28th March.

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Hume Building Society Student banking will conclude on Tuesday 2nd April and recommence on Tuesday 7th May.

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**P&C News - FUNDRAISING**

- A reminder that tomorrow (Friday) is the last day to get Easter goods in for the raffle.
- Monday 25th March all raffle books sold or unsold need to be returned to the school office. The Easter Raffle will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade on Tuesday 26th March.

Along with our usual sale of portraits on Grand friends Day, we will be taking photos of Grand friends with their special students. These will be high quality enlarged prints (6 x 8”) available to purchase for just $4 each. These will be a great memento of your visit to the school. Grand friends Day is on April 5th. Order forms will be made available on the day.
Having fun at the Athletics Carnival & Harmony Day

Community News

BUNNINGS WAREHOUSE - FREE EASTER FAMILY NIGHT
Thursday 21 March 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Major League Indoor Sports – new Indoor Soccer season starting now!! Enrol your child as a player or find some classmates and start a team. For information call – 6021 5855.

Respect, Responsibility, Care.
Celebrate Harmony Day

Experience cultures from around the world. Join us at the Community Wood FIred Oven for free food tastings accompanied by live music. The afternoon finishes with the traditional Hindu celebration of Holi - Festival of Colours.

Sunday 24 March, 2pm - 5pm
Albury Community Wood FIred Oven, Howell Tree Park, Albury.

Free Event
More info call 6021 8111 or visit www.alburycity.nsw.gov.au

Jindera Community Market
Saturday 23 March 8am-1pm
Jindera Public School

A huge variety of stalls with something for all the family - only 15 minutes from Albury

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www.alburywest-p.school.nsw.edu.au

Respect, Responsibility, Care.