Albury West Public School

Widening Horizons

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Principal – Sharon Julien

Term 4 Week 8 **3rd December 2020**

To endeavour to keep everyone well, please remember that if your child is unwell or has flu like symptoms then they (and you) should not attend school and will require a COVID test before resuming school.

It has been a year we will never forget. We started the year shrouded in smoke: vast sections of the state ravaged by fires, communities devastated by personal loss and exhausted by a summer on high alert.

And then, out of nowhere, this virus that has come to disrupt so much of what we would have felt central in our lives: how we live and work, how we shop, where we travel, who we see, even where we can stand. The speed of its impact has been astonishing and the consequences, staggering.

In the face of it all, the response across the school by all of our staff and families has been magnificent.

It is hard to think of a time when so much has changed in our schools so quickly and so unexpectedly.

The commitment to supporting our students and their learning, has never been more strongly demonstrated than in this year.

The challenge was embraced by teachers and support staff together. It has been such a bold and rapid response to a pressing, immediate challenge. Totally re-thinking how students would be taught and how to best support learning, engagement and wellbeing when our classrooms were largely empty was a priority. Everyone was committed to deliver ongoing learning. And this came about through remarkable collaboration and teamwork, tremendous organisational skills and long, long hours. Also needed during this year has been good cheer and great humour amidst the exhaustion.

Thank you everyone for the remarkable, spirited and professional response to the challenges presented this year. It has been an extraordinary effort and a phenomenal example of our organisational values in action – service, excellence, accountability, trust, equity and integrity.

No matter what the circumstances may be, we are committed to helping your child learn and grow, ensuring they remain known, valued and cared for at this time more than ever. We are committed to ensuring our students achieved success despite the disruptions.

Throughout it all and on the other side, teaching and learning will be a cornerstone of our society and our citizens everywhere. We will continue to deliver through all of the uncertainty, challenge and change.

But for now, I hope everyone can take pride in what has been achieved.
And enjoy a well-deserved break in coming days.

As we come closer to the end of the school year, we'd like to extend our thanks to you, our parent community, for demonstrating so much resilience and patience towards the circumstances we faced together. We strived together to get the best outcomes for our students despite the pandemic and you have stayed by our side the entire time. Thank you again.
We will be sending a COVID-safe summer pack to each student before the year ends. The contents of the pack will help students maintain healthy hygiene practices and to stay COVID-safe during the school holidays.
Here are some quick tips to help you and your families stay COVID-safe during the school holidays:

- Encourage your children to use their packs whenever they leave the house
- Meet outdoors whenever possible and wear sunscreen
- Meet in small groups
- Encourage good hand hygiene practices and remind your children to cough and sneeze into their elbow
- Keep up-to-date with the latest health information by monitoring the NSW Government website

End of term wrap up
There are many school based activities occurring in the final weeks of Term 4. Parents are asked to make note of events, dates and times listed in the newsletter. It is a very busy time of year and each week seems to be going by very quickly!!

- All students will be coming home with their **report** card on Thursday 10th December.
- The **Year 6 Graduation Luncheon** will be held on Monday 14th December at 1.00pm.
- Kindergarten, Years 1 and 2 students will visit **Rumble Tumbles** on Tuesday 15th December – permission notes have already been sent home.
- The students in Years 3-6 will attend their **end of year activity** at the Regent Cinema on Tuesday 15th December – permission notes have also been sent home.
- **School concludes for students on Wednesday 16th December**. Teachers will be attending professional development, centred around literacy and collaborative practices on the Thursday and Friday.

Year 6 High School Orientation Program
The Year 6 students had their final visit to Albury High this week. They found the day beneficial as they made new friends and experienced a further taste of what high school life is all about.

Year 6 Graduation
Albury West has been very fortunate to have an outstanding leadership group this year. This has been evident during a very difficult year. Our senior leaders are very important to our school culture and help shape the future for the next cohort of students. I would like to thank our Year 6 students for being part of our school community and I look forward to hearing of their successes in the future.

Reports

Children in Years K–6 will be coming home with their report card next week. We hope you enjoy the many positive comments about your amazing children. I have gained enormous insight about the effort and achievements of all our students and appreciate the time staff have put into collating all this information.

Presentation Day via ZOOM

Many of our students will be recognised for their hard work and effort in academic, creative and sporting achievements during our Presentation Day to be held on Monday 7th December.

Book Packs for 2021

In 2021 Albury West Public School will continue with the Book Packs for each class. We are asking all families to support the school by purchasing a book pack for their child. Packs will cost $30 each; however a family of 3 or more students will only be charged $65. Each class pack is different and has been supplied with items relevant to your child's year. Packs will be available for purchase in Term 1. Payment can be made by cash, cheque, Eftpos or online.

Happy Holidays

The last day of term for students is Wednesday 16th December.
While the school year for 2021 may be the furthest thing from our minds at the moment students in Years 1–6 will commence on Friday 29th January. Staff will be attending professional learning focussed on departmental policy on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th. All activities will support your child's learning. Kindergarten students will commence on Monday 1st February.

PLEASE NOTE – **classes may not be formed in the first week of school for 2021.** All students will stay with their teacher from this year whilst we confirm student numbers. Once numbers are confirmed classes will be finalised.

It remains for me to pass on to you from the staff at Albury West our Seasons Greetings. To those of you who are finishing at Albury West Public School, we wish you every success and happiness in the next stage of your lives. To those of you who are returning have a wonderful holiday. I trust that you will come back refreshed and eager for a new academic year in 2021.

As this is the final newsletter for 2020, I would like to thank our school community for another exciting and successful year at Albury West. I would like to thank our P&C for their continued involvement in our school and I would like to recognise our incredible staff for their dedication and commitment to our school and its students. I would like to wish our entire school community a safe and Merry Christmas and I look forward to the challenges of 2021.

From all of us at Albury West Public School, be safe and enjoy the school holidays.

Merry Christmas
Sharon Julien

IMPORTANT DATES

School Reports go home	**Thursday 10th December**
Year 6 Graduation Lunch	**Monday 14th December**
Years K-2 End of Year Party Rumble Tumbles	**Tuesday 15th December**
Years 3-6 End of Year Party Regent Cinema	**Tuesday 15th December**
END OF TERM 4 FOR STUDENTS	**Wednesday 16th December**

P&C NEWS – UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop now has EFTPOS. You no longer need to have cash to purchase your uniform needs. Purchases can be made at the front office.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the following award winners:-

Gotcha Awards	
Merit Certificates	Corey Murray, Jarryn Delphin, Oliver Baudinette, Chloe Bollingmoore, Max McLaws, Hunter Deas, Izaak Loney, Ruby Allen, Jarryn Delphin, Emmerson Lovatt, Isabel O'Bryan, Erin McNab, Ciahnna Williams-Bihler, Kristen Mundy-Thiele.
Citizen Awards	Haven Parker-McLeod, Lincoln Deas, Jobe Boulton, Allira Allen, Xavier Gay, Lorelai Newsome, Miley Mundy, Cruz Lush, Elijah Graham, Riley Henderson, Mikayla Long, Sarah Hall, Lucy Kimball, El O'Dea.
How2Learn Awards	Zac Malin, Harry Bourke, Nate Kolstad, Jarvis Tobin, Arlo Beattie, Tahlia Cannon, Finn McLeod, Mason Shipard, Harry Hopper, Ellie Stevens, Tiana Beechey, Alkira Carlo, Eli Chalmers.
Student of the Week	Tiana Beechey, Lincoln Deas
Clean Kangaroo	4/5J, 2/3R
Aussie of the Month	

P&C NEWS - CANTEEN

THRIFTY THURSDAY SPECIALS

December 10th -	Taco Wrap plus Slushy & Quelch	$5.50
	Hot Chicken Wrap plus Slushy & Quelch	$5.50
	Cheese Toastie plus Slushy & Quelch	$5.00
	Cheese Sandwich plus Slushy & Quelch	$4.50
	2 X Pizza Muffins plus Slushy & Quelch	$3.50
December 16th -	Ham & Cheese Toastie plus Juice Box & Quelch	$5.50
	Cheese Burger plus Juice Box & Quelch	$5.00
	Ham & Cheese Sandwich plus Juice Box & Quelch	$5.00
	2 X Volcanoes plus Juice Box & Quelch	$4.00
	3 X Party Pies plus Juice Box & Quelch	$4.00

COMMUNITY NEWS

NSW GOVERNMENT Education & Communities

Public Schools NSW

ALBURY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL CANTEEN ORDER FORM		
Name		
Class		
1 order form per child		**Cost**
Recess order		
Lunch order		
	TOTAL MONEY ENCLOSED	**$**

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WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY