

ARARAT NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

~ Resilience ~ Respect ~ Responsibility

NEWSLETTER



Friday, February 10, 2023

A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Judy Jenkins

Happy New Year ANPS families,

Welcome back to another year of exciting learning opportunities, where our students, staff, and community embark on new beginnings, and build new connections and relationships.

We are celebrating the beginning of the school year with a meaningful theme inspired by the art of Yorta Yorta artist, Holly McLennan-Brown, entitled, "New Beginnings."

The journey lines through the middle symbolize moving forward together and gathering to share stories of family, animals, and identity. The stars are a positive affirmation that every new day is fresh and full of opportunities.

2023 is a new beginning for each of us. This year we aspire to provide every student at ANPS with engaging and challenging learning opportunities. We will experience new challenges, newfound courage, new ideas, and renewed confidence in ourselves, as we journey together. We aim to make this year the best possible one for our students, and each other. Our school values of Respect, Resilience and Responsibility will underpin the way we work, and our Ararat North Primary School commitment will drive the work that we do. Our ANPS school community has a culture of high expectations with active learners. We provide rich learning opportunities in a happy, safe, and inclusive educational environment.

YOU are your child's first teacher. We are here to team up with you to make your child's year at school the best it can possibly be. They say, "It takes a village to raise a child." We are all part of the ANPS village. We look forward to having you join us as we venture along the journey together; to support, encourage and celebrate each child.

I would like to sincerely thank the Ararat North Primary School community for welcoming me once again into their 'village'. I am filled with happiness each time I step inside our wonderful school and witness the positive, considerate, and enthusiastic students who are our children. I have come to Ararat North Primary School from a diverse teaching and educational leadership background. Originally Primarily trained, I have taught every year level from Prep to Year 6 both in Canada and Australia. I have supported teachers in previous roles as a Literacy Specialist, PE and French language teacher, as well as a Behaviour Mentor. I have Directed and led international education camps around the world.

I was inextricably drawn to this position by the uniqueness of the educational setting and the opportunities and advantages such a small community school can offer. Small class sizes, excellent staff-to-student ratios, and dedicated teachers who know and understand the students in their care. Witnessing the empathetic and cooperative interactions of our students across year levels on the playground has made me very proud. I would like to acknowledge and thank our entire staff team at ANPS, who work tirelessly and generously to ensure the safety, success, and well-being of each student. They continue to make so many positive contributions to our school each day.

It has been a pleasure to welcome our new staff and students for 2023. Our Office continues to be capably led by Merrin, our Business Manager. Merrin will be in the office most days, working part-time over a fortnight. We also welcome back our talented and creative art teacher Quinny, who is already working magic in the Art room. It is lovely to have you back, Quinny.

Lauren (LA1), Karen (LA2), and Luke (LA3) round our classroom teaching team. We welcome Luke back to ANPS and know he and the students will have a fantastic year. Alistair is our Science and PE teacher, and Health and well-being leader. Barb is our Tutor this year and will provide Math enrichment to selected ANPS students. Our ESS team, who support student learning and behavior, comprises Shayna (also our Breakfast Club coordinator), Jess, Leanne, Donna, and Heather. Craig keeps our school safe, and our gardens beautiful. Tony, is our new school psychologist. We are excited to have him join us this year on Thursdays and Fridays. We couldn't do what we do without such a fantastic, dedicated, and competent team!

All the students and staff have been delighted to welcome our six new students for 2022. They include Jeremy, Riley, Indi, Maksym, Harlem, and Kausha. They are fantastic additions to our school. We wish them an educational experience that will enrich their lives and create curiosity and set the foundations for future learning.

Notes FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Our **morning school bell rings at 8:50** to allow students to settle into their classrooms for learning to begin at 9am. Please ensure your child does not arrive at school before 8:30am- unless they attend the **Breakfast Program**.

Our daily **Breakfast Program runs from 8:20-8:40am** each morning. **Attendance** is taken at **9:00am** and students not present by **9:15am will be marked absent**. *A call will be made home if your child is absent during roll call to ensure they are safe.*

Fruit/ Veggie/ Brain break is at 10am. Please ensure your child has something healthy to nibble on. **Snack is at 10:45am**. All students will eat their snacks before heading outside for recess.

Recess is from 11:00-11:30am. Two teachers are on duty at all times.

Lunch is eaten in the classroom at 1pm followed by **recess play from 1:15-1:45**.

Mindfulness takes place from 1:45-2:00pm.

Dismissal for ANPS students is at 3:15.

Each **Monday afternoon, Respectful Relationships is taught across our school**. Our **whole school Assembly** will be each **fortnight beginning at 2:30 pm**. Our **first assembly will be Monday, 20 Feb**. All are welcome to attend.

We are planning to provide a **hot lunch program** this term. More info will be sent home regarding hot lunch dates, menu, and prices.

Icy poles will be for sale every Tuesday and Thursday, in Term 1. The cost is \$1.00.

Plans are also underway for a **FAMILY WELCOME PICNIC**. We hope to see everyone there! We will send out information regarding the Welcome Picnic date and time, next week.

At assembly this past Monday I spoke about 'new beginnings' to the students. I love planting the seeds of kindness, curiosity and empathy. I'm ready for my 2023 beginning at our beautiful school. I look forward to watching our students grow into confident, competent, and happy humans. We have put into place all the right preparations for this to occur. Likewise, I will be assisting our students to flourish academically, socially, emotionally and physically. I aim to provide a strong educational program for our students within a warm, caring environment that fosters and celebrates the individuality of each and every student.

As your Principal, I assure you of my commitment to our students and school community. My door is always open, and I look forward to meeting you or reconnecting with you, in person, as the term progresses.

Smiles,
Judy Jenkins
Principal

FROM OUR CLASSROOMS!

LEARNING AREA 1

Our first week back at school was lots of fun! We have certainly been busy too. L.A.1 made an anchor chart listing our daily chores, a 'first day of school' crown, and were assigned to our new Show and Tell roster. The children also enjoyed making insects out of modelling clay for Integrated Studies.



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL CROWNS



MODELLING CLAY INSECTS



LEARNING AREA 2

Tuesday morning LA2 students enjoyed working with LA3 students on a "Marshmallow Challenge". As part of a team-building activity, students were challenged to build the tallest free-standing structure out of 20 sticks of spaghetti, one meter of tape and one marshmallow.

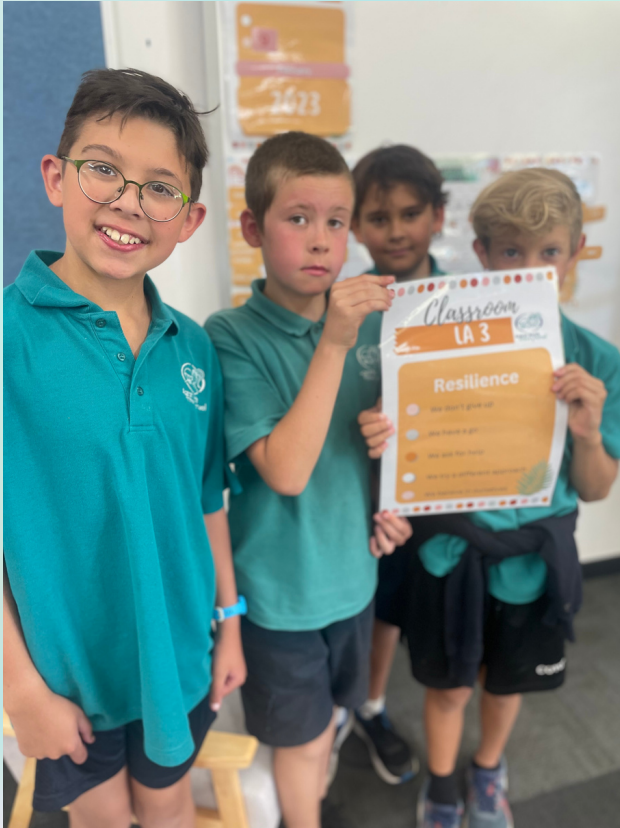


In LA2 we have been looking at what good independent reading looks like. I think you will agree the photo below shows the students are in a comfortable space, they are focused and reading quietly to themselves.



LEARNING AREA 3

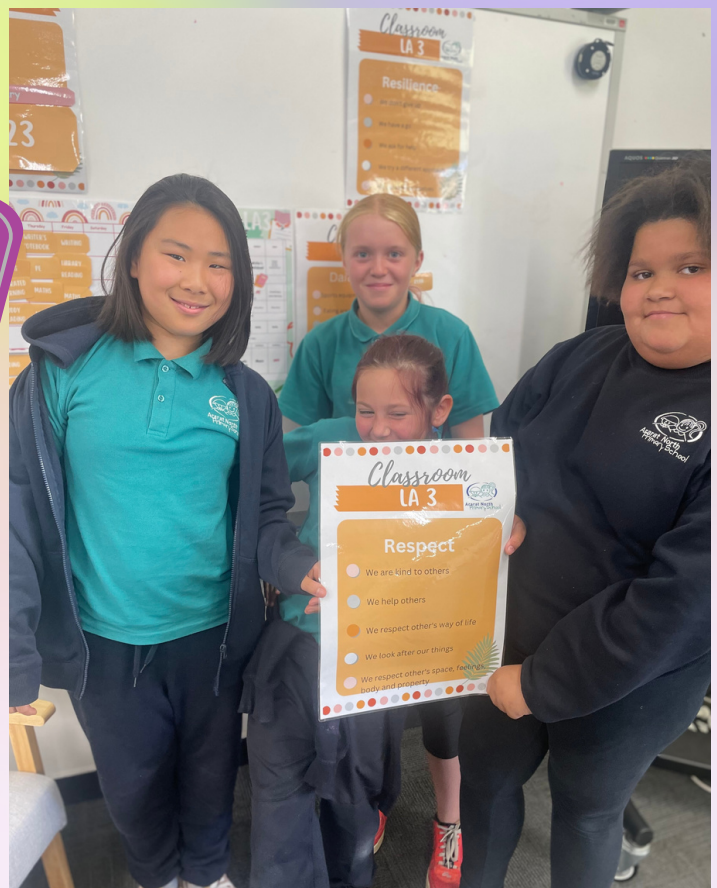
The students of LA3 have enjoyed setting up their schedule, learning to learn processes, positive relationships and safe learning environment. To establish positive learning choices aligned with our school values, the students have nominated actions and attitudes to best display what responsibility, resilience and respect look like.



- WE DON'T GIVE UP
- WE HAVE A GO
- WE ASK FOR HELP
- WE TRY A DIFFERENT APPROACH
- WE BELIEVE IN OURSELVES

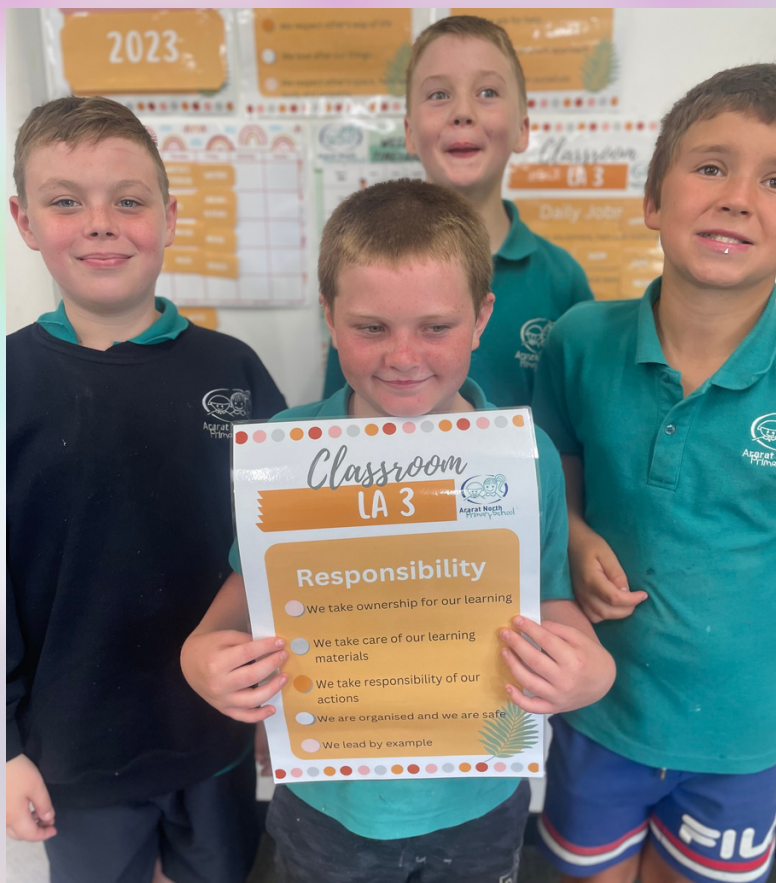


- We are kind to others
- We help others
- We respect other's way of life
- We respect other's space, feelings, body and property





- We take ownership of our learning
- We take care of our learning materials
- We take responsibility for our actions
- We are organised and we are safe
- We lead by example



From the Art Room

This year all classes will attend specialist Art lessons once per week in our lovely Art Room. Art days are: Tuesday (Learning Area 3), Wednesday (Learning Area 2) and Friday (Learning Area 1). All students are welcome to bring their own art smock to wear. Children who don't have a smock will be able to borrow one of the school smocks when needed.



Staff Biography

EACH NEWSLETTER WE WILL PUBLISH A SHORT BIO FROM A STAFF MEMBER TO HELP YOU GET TO KNOW US - THIS WEEK WE BEGIN WITH MR. JOHNSON!



Hello,
I would like to introduce myself. I am Mr Johnson. I have been a teacher at our wonderful school for over 10 years.

This year I am teaching Science and Physical Education. I am also the Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader.

If you would like to have a chat about how your child or children are going, or if you need support in any way, please ring me at school (5352 3766) or send me an email at alistair.johnson@education.vic.gov.au



A few of my favourite things:

- Colour: Silver
- Food: Indian
- TV show: anything on Netflix
- Pets: One Guinea Pig
- AFL Team: Collingwood



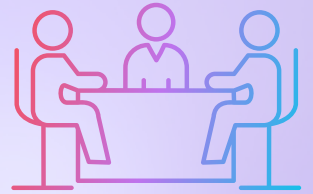
DID YOU KNOW?

I like to play guitar and listen to rock music
I used to live on a tropical island on the Great Barrier Reef and taught people how to SCUBA dive
I love running, swimming, mountain bike riding and surfing

PARENTS NEEDED!

Support your child's school in a very important way. Join School Council...

Ararat North Primary School's School Council has **3 positions for parents** vacant this year.



**NEW PARENT COUNCIL MEMBERS
START AT THE MARCH MEETING**

School Councils play a key role in Victorian government schools. Participating as a School Council member is a **rewarding** and **challenging** experience. The School Council supports the Principal to provide **the best possible educational outcomes for students**. The Council is made up of elected parents and staff members with the majority being parents. We **meet twice per term**. A councillor serves **for 2 years**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE
JUDY AND MERRIN WILL BE MORE
THAN
HAPPY TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT
BECOMING A SCHOOL COUNCILLOR
AT ARARAT NORTH PRIMARY
SCHOOL!

EXTRA INFORMATION:

The functions of a school council are outlined in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 and include:

- establishing the **broad direction and vision** of the school within the school's community
- participating in the development and monitoring of the School Strategic Plan
- approving the annual budget and **monitoring expenditure**
- developing, reviewing and updating **school policies**
- **raising funds for school-related purposes**
- maintaining the school's grounds and facilities
- entering into **contracts** (such as for cleaning or construction work)
- reporting annually to the school community and to the Department
- **creating interest in the school in the wider community**
- taking into account the views of the community
- regulating and facilitating the after hours use of school and grounds
- operating a children's service at the school or other premises controlled by the Minister

REMINDER

HAPPY
Valentines
DAY

WHAT: SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

WHERE: IN THE HALL

WHEN: MONDAY AT 2.30 PM.

ALL WELCOME!

KEY DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- Monday, February 13 - School Assembly 2.30 in the Hall
- Tuesday, February 14 - Valentine's Day 
- Wednesday, February 15 - SCHOOL COUNCIL 4PM
- Monday, February 27 - School Assembly 2.30 in the Hall
- Tuesday, February 28 - LA 3 Youth Leadership Conference
- Wednesday, March 8 - Book Fair starts
- Monday, March 13 - Labour Day - NO SCHOOL
- Tuesday, March 21 - Harmony Day
- Thursday, April 6 - Last Day of Term 1 - EARLY DISMISSAL

Ararat North Primary School

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www.anps.vic.gov.au

Our Newsletter is published every second week. Our next Newsletter date is **Friday, February 24, 2023**. If you would like to **submit something** for our Newsletter (e.g. a community or sports group announcement) please send it to school by **Wednesday, February 22, 2023**.



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We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the first peoples and Traditional Owners and custodians of the land and waterways on which we live.

We honour and pay our respects to Elders past and present.