

# Welcome to Stage 1



We are looking forward to a very exciting and productive year with you and your child. We have outlined some of the important classroom routines and organisation, including the learning focuses for this term.

To ensure a successful year for your child, we ask that students come prepared each day and that you keep up to date with notes, newsletters and permission slips, where required. Information about school events can also be viewed on the APS Skoolbag App. Please inform us in writing of OOSH and Bus arrangements and keep us informed if these change throughout the year.

If you have any questions, please call the office to schedule a meeting with your child's class teacher or leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

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## General Information

- We have a daily **crunch 'n' sip** in our classroom. It would be great if fresh fruits or vegetables could be cut up, so that there is no mess or peeling. This break can help improve students' concentration.
- Stage 1 **homework** will start in Week 3. This term homework will include; home readers to help support reading within the classroom and a homework grid. A reading record sheet will be provided and class teachers would appreciate it being filled out so we know that your child has read to you or another family member. The homework grid contains a range of spelling, mathematics and general activities. **Year 2 homework will be sent home weekly on Monday and needs to be returned to school on Friday. Year 1 homework will be sent home weekly on Friday and needs to be returned to school on Thursday.** Home readers can be returned daily to be changed.
- Children should see reading as a part of home and school and should be encouraged to read each day. Don't forget to ask your child a few questions about the text when they have finished reading. For example: Who was the main character? What happened in the story? Can you draw me your favourite character from this book?
- Stage 1 **sport** will be held on **Thursday** each week. Students will need to wear sports uniform to school each Thursday.
- **Library** lessons will take place each week. Students must bring a library bag if they wish to borrow a book to take home. Library days for Stage 1 are: **Monday – 2E & 1T and Friday – 2M, 2L, 1H and 1F.**
- Regular attendance at school is important for students to be able to reach their potential. The school is required to record the reason for any absence from school. You can notify us of your child's absence by telephoning, replying to the absence SMS/email or by sending a note in when your child returns to school.
- Due to COVID-19 restrictions, please do not send home made cupcakes to school for birthday celebrations. You may send individually packaged shop bought cupcakes, chocolates (e.g. Freddos) or ice blocks (e.g. Zooper Doopers)
- Due to COVID-19 the school will provide hand sanitiser, therefore it is not required for your child to bring their own unless this is something that you would like to monitor. Face masks are not mandatory for children under 12, however we will have a small supply in the classroom or if you would like your child to wear a mask to school, please have a discussion with them about how to correctly wear the mask and provide a mask each day.
- We would like to ask for donations of paper towel, tissues and hand wash for our classroom as they would be very much appreciated.
- We will be using Seesaw as a form of communicating the children's achievements in the classroom and some of the activities that have been participated in throughout the day. Unfortunately Seesaw can not be used as a form of communication between classroom teachers and parents as it is not monitored regularly and important information could be overlooked. If we need to be informed of appointments, early leaving or general concerns, we ask that a note is sent into the classroom or a phone call made to the office and we will reply at our earliest convenience.

## Explicit Instruction

- As part of our School Strategic Direction, we are continuing to implement John Fleming's Explicit Instruction pedagogy. Students will be continuing to complete reading warm-ups, daily writing warm-ups, genre writing and maths warm-ups and lessons. As a result, students complete an extensive amount of their work on whiteboards. This allows teachers to give instant and constructive feedback, ensuring that students engage in work at their own level.

## Behaviour

- We have a well monitored system for tracking behaviours within the classroom and playground. All teachers on duty record any major incidents that are reported to them and these are followed up by the executive as needed. Of course, we can only act on incidents that we are made aware of – so please speak with your child about the importance of reporting concerns to a teacher. School is as much about learning social skills as it is about academics and it is to be expected that conflicts between students will occasionally occur. Our aim is to deal with these quickly and supportively so that problems do not escalate. If you, or your child, have a concern please contact your child's class teacher for assistance.
- Each class will also be implementing individual and class reward systems which allows students to be accountable for their own actions within the classroom, both negative and positive.

## Yearly Overview

- Each day students will participate in an engaging **literacy** session. Literacy groups will involve aspects of reading and writing, including comprehension, spelling, handwriting, grammar and punctuation. Students will be participating in a variety of speaking and listening activities during this session to help improve these skills.

<u>Key Learning Area</u>	<u>Term 1</u>	<u>Term 2</u>	<u>Term 3</u>	<u>Term 4</u>
Genre Writing	Imaginative Texts	Persuasive Texts	Informative Texts	Persuasive Texts (Week 1-5) Poetry (Week 6-11)
Maths	Students will engage in activities that focus on working mathematically, number and algebra, measurement and geometry, statistics and probability			
Science, Geography and History	Physical World	Past and Present Family Life	Living World	People and Places
Creative Arts	Visual Arts	Music	Drama	Dance
Personal Development and Health	How can we be safe and active in the playground?	What makes us unique?	Strengths and Strategies for Safety	How can we include others?
Physical Education	What skills do I need to move during physical activity?	How can I use my skills to solve movement challenges?	How can we move to music?	How can I play cooperatively?

## Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

This year our school will continue to implement our Positive Behaviour for Learning Framework. Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is an initiative supported by the Department of Education in the Hunter region to promote and maximise academic achievement and behavioural competence. It is a school-wide strategy for making sure students achieve important social and learning goals. We know that when good behaviour and good teaching come together, our students will excel in their learning.

### PBL is:

- A focus on establishing a school environment that supports long term success of effective practices
- A set of expectations for student behaviour
- Support for consistency in the way we support our students
- An approach where appropriate student behaviour is taught & problem behaviours have clear consequences

PBL delivers a positive and consistent approach to student behaviour across the school community. Students learn most effectively in a safe and consistent environment where they are supported and rewarded for positive behaviours. Good discipline involves the development of appropriate, responsible attitudes and behaviour in students. The development of self-discipline and the ability to distinguish right from wrong is fundamental. This is most effective when there is mutual support between home and school.

## Student Wellbeing

Our school values have been developed through the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) framework. The APS school values are:

<u><b>Respectful</b></u>	<u><b>Responsible</b></u>	<u><b>Successful</b></u>
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These beliefs underpin our quality learning environment

**ASHTONFIELD  
PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**IN OUR SCHOOL WE ARE**

**RESPECTFUL**

- ✓ Speak positively and politely
- ✓ Hands and feet to yourself
- ✓ Wear school uniform with pride

**RESPONSIBLE**

- ✓ Follow instructions
- ✓ Walk sensibly on hard surfaces

**SUCCESSFUL**

- ✓ Be prepared for the school day
- ✓ Be a positive role model
- ✓ Right place, right time



## APS Positive Behaviour Flowchart

### SPEND QUALITY TIME WITH MRS SCULLY

- YOU WILL BE ABLE TO BOOK IN TO SPEND SOME QUALITY TIME WITH MRS SCULLY BECAUSE YOU HAVE CONTINUALLY SHOWN OUTSTANDING BEHAVIOUR AND YOUR WORK CONTINUES TO BE OUTSTANDING.
- MRS SCULLY WILL MAKE A PHONE CALL HOME TO TELL PARENTS ABOUT THE FANTASTIC EFFORT YOU ARE SHOWING



### SPEND QUALITY TIME WITH MS MOON

YOU WILL BE ABLE TO BOOK IN TO SPEND SOME QUALITY TIME WITH MS MOON BECAUSE YOU HAVE CONTINUALLY SHOWN OUTSTANDING BEHAVIOUR AND YOUR WORK CONTINUES TO BE OUTSTANDING.



### SHOW MRS SCULLY YOUR EFFORT

YOU HAVE CONTINUED TO SHOW OUTSTANDING WORK  
YOUR BEHAVIOUR CONTINUES TO BE OUTSTANDING



### SHOW MS MOON YOUR EFFORT

YOU HAVE CONTINUED TO SHOW OUTSTANDING WORK  
YOUR BEHAVIOUR CONTINUES TO BE OUTSTANDING



### SHOW STAGE SUPERVISOR YOUR EFFORTS

YOU HAVE SHOWN OUTSTANDING WORK AND HAVE TRIED REALLY HARD  
YOUR BEHAVIOUR HAS BEEN GREAT AT ALL TIMES



# APS Problem Behaviour Flowchart

## POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

- VERBAL ENCOURAGEMENT - MERIT AWARDS - CLASS AWARDS - PEBBLES - DOJO POINTS

## WARNING 1

THIS HAPPENS WHEN THE TEACHER HAS TO SPEAK WITH YOU FOR SHOWING NEGATIVE BEHAVIOUR

## WARNING 2

THIS HAPPENS WHEN THE TEACHER HAS TO SPEAK WITH YOU A SECOND TIME FOR SHOWING NEGATIVE BEHAVIOUR

## TIME OUT

THIS IS WHEN YOU NEED TO BE MOVED TO ANOTHER SPOT IN THE CLASSROOM OR PLAYGROUND FOR TIME OUT - 10 MINS

## BUDDY ROOM TIMEOUT ROOM

## PLANNING ROOM

**CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR** - YOU WILL BE SENT TO YOUR BUDDY CLASS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SESSION - REPEATED VISITS TO BUDDY CLASS IN THE DAY WILL RESULT IN TEACHER CALLING HOME.

**PLAYGROUND BEHAVIOUR** - YOU WILL BE SENT TO THE PLANNING ROOM FOR THE REMAINDER OF LUNCH AND THE FOLLOWING DAY (BOTH LUNCHES)

## Stage 1 Staff



**Mrs Donna O'Neill**  
Assistant Principal



**Mrs Thea Wilson**  
Literacy & Numeracy Support - Y2



**Mrs Natasha McDermott**  
2M



**Mrs Jenny Leggett**  
2L



**Mrs Biannca Ernst**  
2E (Mon-Wed)



**Mrs Emily McNamara**  
2E (Thu-Fri)



**Mrs Keah Tilbrook**  
1T (Mon-Wed)



**Mrs Michelle Scarpinato**  
1T (Thu-Fri)



**Mrs Jennifer Freeman**  
1F



**Mrs Kylie Hicks**  
1H



**Mrs Emma Ball**  
K-2 Pedagogy Mentor  
Assistant Principal



**Mrs Alicia Marcus**  
Literacy & Numeracy Support - Y1

After what has been a challenging couple of years due to COVID-19, we are hoping for a settled, successful and enjoyable year ahead.

Thank you for your support,

Stage 1 Staff.