

## Diary Dates

Please refer to the school calendar attached to this newsletter.

As we all know, life is busy and we hope this calendar helps to promote our special events, excursions, camps, public holidays, child free days and all other important dates throughout 2021.

The staff team will add to the calendar throughout the year and an updated version will be sent home at the beginning of each term.



## 2021 School Terms

### TERM 1

27th January – 9th April

### TERM 2

27th April – 2nd July

### TERM 3

19th July – 24th September

### TERM 4

11th Oct – 10th December

## Principal's Message

Alberton Primary School is excited to welcome in the 2021 school year! It has been a beautiful start to the school year and lovely to see children smiling and happy to be back.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new children and families. We look forward to working with you and your family in 2021.

For our 55 new Preschool (NEST) children and families, it was lovely to see so many of you throughout the first week supporting transition. This milestone is as important for your a child as it is for a parent or caregiver and was great to have you part of the experience.

We have been busy over the holidays designing our learning spaces ready for 2021. We were really excited to share these spaces with you during our 'Open Classroom' experience prior to school returning. We received some overwhelming positive feedback on our new and exciting spaces! Many families commented that it was really nice to have the opportunity to meet teachers and familiarise yourself with a child's learning space.

A reminder that our learning environments will open from 8:35am each morning, with school and Nest programs beginning from 8:45am to 3pm. This little bit of extra time enables children to get settled, unpacked and seek out friends as they transition into the day.

We hope the information that is promoted through the newsletter is welcomed and useful. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher and the Front Office for any further clarification.

I wish all children and families the very best for the upcoming school year and look forward to celebrating our successes and highlights along the way.

**Kind Regards**  
**Dan Jarrad**



## Welcome Back Quotes From Children.....



"It's really cool to be back at school"

"I found it hard to get up but I'm glad I came today"

"My teacher is so kind, they had a welcome back gift for everyone"

"We love our new classrooms and the new carpet that we can sit on"

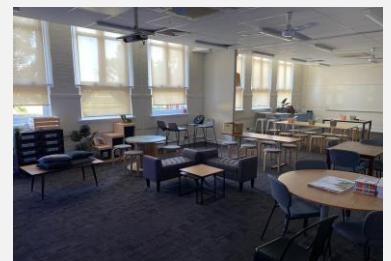
"I loved seeing my friends"

"We had great holidays but really want to see my friends"

"I love that I can choose to sit at a table when I need to"



## Upgrades



Over the holidays we have seen many upgrades completed across the site.

New height adjustable Basketball poles, cricket pitch repairs, soccer goals, garden and Nest upgrades as well as classroom refurbishment work has been completed. Our ICT and new furniture will be coming soon due to recent COVID issues in other states.

## Reverse Interviews

Reverse interviews will be held in Weeks 3 Term 1 (Monday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb). **On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021, Reverse Interviews will commence from 1:30pm onwards as school dismissal is at 1pm (Approved by Governing Council).**

We ask wherever possible arrangements are made for pick up from 1pm for your child, however, supervision will be provided for children until 3pm if needed. (Learning program's will not be continuing at this time due to Reverse Interviews).

Non classroom based teachers and SSO's will be providing the supervision.

Children accessing **OHSC** on this day will commence at **OHSC** from 1pm (at no further cost to the family).

Staff members will be offering a range of times across this week and bookings will be accessible via School Interviews online. Other times can be booked on a needs basis if required with your child's teacher.

Interviews are 15 minutes in duration. To make a booking go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)





## 2021 Home – School Communication Information



In 2021, we aim to provide consistency of information in a timely manner. Below is an outline of our school communication platforms. Please take the time to read this information carefully, update your information at the Front Office and upload the appropriate apps.



### Email

We will connect with families via email. Please keep your email address up to date with the school. Your child's teacher will share their email address with you as part of their welcome back newsletter in early Term 1. All whole school communication will be sent out via **email** and **Skoolbag**.



### Skoolbag

Skoolbag updated their online platform recently. It will bring some great benefits for our school, including the ability to communicate with specific magpie and event groups. Keep an eye out for our updates in Term 1. All whole school communication will be sent out via **email** and **Skoolbag**.



### Newsletters

Newsletters will remain a central platform in the way we communicate with families. They have been a great way to share news, update the community and help families stay connected with what is happening across the school. Newsletters will be sent home via **email** and **Skoolbag**, and will be uploaded onto the school's website. Newsletters will be published every 3 weeks. They will be sent home in hard copy form in 2021.



### Seesaw

Nest and classroom teachers will be using **Seesaw**, as one way we share children's learning. These online portfolios give you a little glimpse into what the class is doing and the engagement of your own child or children. This is not an assessment or reporting platform but to rather showcase learning, highlights and class culture.



### Facebook

The Alberton Primary School Facebook page works in conjunction with our website to keep current families updated and informed. We will promote our successes and good news stories with the wider world via this platform. This is the only official Facebook page that is associated with Alberton Primary School in South Australia and is managed by the school **DfE**.



### Phone

We are only ever a phone call away. If you are wishing to speak with a teacher, during school hours can be a tricky time and email may be more reliable. However, we are always able to take a message and return your call. Please contact the school on **8447 1924** if needed.



### Attendance

It is a Department for Education requirement that families advise schools regarding a child's absence or absences. An easy way to do this is via the Absentee **eForm** on **Skoolbag**. Alternatively, you may contact the **Front Office** on **8447 1924** or **[Lauren.Black582@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Lauren.Black582@schools.sa.edu.au)**, if your child will be absent (in advance notice is always appreciated when possible).

A quick and easy text messaging system will be introduced at Alberton PS in 2021. We will have further information about this in Term 1.

## News from The Nest

What a wonderful start to the school year we have had in the Nest welcoming 55 new children and their families. It has been fantastic to see children form new friendships, explore learning spaces and display a love of learning new things.

Thank you to all the families who have come in to meet staff, share in their child's education, and connect with each other. This term one of the focuses for children will be to learn about how to care for ourselves, care for each other, and care for our place. These important values help children to become confident, respectful and capable learners.

### Immunisations

We are required to keep up to date records of preschool children's immunisations. It is important that when your child has scheduled immunisations (typically at 4 years of age) that we are provided with an updated copy of their Immunisation History Statement.

### Back to School checklist for Parents!

- ☐ Read this newsletter 😊
- ☐ Download Skoolbag and turn notifications on
- ☐ Pay school and kindy fees
- ☐ Update changes of address, phone number or email
- ☐ Purchase new uniforms at the Front Office
- ☐ Book into OSHC if needed – online bookings required
- ☐ Checkout the School Calendar and know what is coming up
- ☐ Read your child's class newsletter that was sent home this week
- ☐ Direct any queries or concerns you may have back through the class teacher (or talk about these at the Reverse Interviews)

### Playgroup

Playgroup will be held in the Nest each Friday morning from 9:00am – 10:30am. All families with children under school age are invited to attend. Please bring a gold coin donation and individual piece of fruit to eat. Kate McKenzie (Nest Teacher) is the new Playgroup Coordinator. The first playgroup for 2021 will be held on **Friday 5th January**.

### Crunch and Sip

We encourage children to bring in a water bottle (labelled with name) to sip on during learning time and a healthy snack (approved fruit or vegie) to eat during morning learning session.

Packaged chips, lollies or cakes are not part of Crunch and Sip and will need to wait for eating time. Thankyou

### Curriculum Overviews

These will be sent home in the coming weeks which outlines what is being covered for Term 1 within our learning teams and Magpie Groups.

Team planning and consistency across teams is priority area for teaching staff

### Hats

Children are required to wear a school hat during Term 1 and 4 whilst outside. Hats can be purchased from the Front Office for \$12.

### Pick Up Areas

Please ensure your child knows the designated pick up point at the end of the day to help with smooth and safe transition from school to home.

Please wait outside buildings until the bell goes at 3pm, this really helps in supporting our children and staff with a calm transition at the end of the day.