

Ardeer Primary School

Newsletter

July 23rd, 2026

Key Dates

Swimming Program

Grade Prep, 2, 4 & 6

Monday 27th July- Friday 7th
August

Australian Maths Competition

(Select students)

Wednesday 5th August

Robots in Residence Program

Grade 4/5 & 5/6

Monday 10th August

District Athletics Day

(Select students)

Friday 21st August

Book Fair

Monday 24th – 28th August

Book Week Parade

Thursday 27th August

Curriculum Day (Pupil free day)

Monday 31st August

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to the start of Term 3. I hope you all had a lovely break.

It has been wonderful to see students and families back onsite with the resumption of the school term last week. You would have noted that works are well underway in the preparation of the site for our relocatable buildings.

I am delighted to share some wonderful news with our school community.

Our students have achieved the best NAPLAN results in Ardeer Primary School's history, with our Year 3 and Year 5 cohorts outperforming both similar schools and our local network schools across Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

This outstanding achievement reflects the hard work and dedication of our students, the expertise and commitment of our staff, and the invaluable support of our families. Together, we have created a learning environment where high expectations, evidence-based teaching and strong partnerships enable every child to thrive.

While NAPLAN is only one measure of student achievement, these results are a significant milestone and provide strong evidence of the progress our school has made in improving student learning outcomes.

Congratulations to our students, staff and families on this remarkable achievement. It is a wonderful example of our vision in action—*Igniting Minds. Inspiring Excellence.*

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families

Welcome back to Term 3! I hope you had a wonderful break.

Swimming

Students in Grade Prep, Grade 2, Grade 4 and Grade 6 will begin swimming next week! They will swim every day from Monday 27th July to Friday 7th August.

Students who are swimming will need to bring each day:

- A plastic bag for wet clothing / bathers
- A clean pair of underwear
- Bathers (they can wear their bathers under their clothes)
- Goggles
- Dry towel

If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or your classroom teacher.

2026 3-6 School camp

It was so pleasing to see so much interest in our camp for this year. More information will be sent out in the coming weeks about payment arrangements, in addition to some further consent forms needing to be completed.

Subway Lunches

Student Subway lunches will again be returning to Ardeer Primary School for Term 3. Families have the option of ordering a Subway lunch for their children attending our school on the following dates in Term 3:

- Wednesday 12th August
- Wednesday 9th September

Hollie Winfield

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

Thank you to all the families that made it to our Student Led Conferences yesterday. The event is always a wonderful opportunity to hear firsthand from your child and their teacher about some of the successes in their learning over the course of the semester, discuss current and future goals. Events such as these help to strengthen parent and school partnerships and we love seeing as many parents as possible attend them.

SUBWAY LUNCHES

The school will be continuing our partnership with Canteen Hub and Subway in Term 3. Parents will have the opportunity to place an order from a limited Subway menu for their child which will then be delivered to the school at 1PM. Order will then be distributed to students in readiness for the school's lunch break at 1:15PM.

There will be two opportunities scheduled this term, and these will take place on Wednesday 12th August & Wednesday 9th September 2026.

Parents will first need to create a Canteen Hub Account -

<https://app.canteenhub.com.au/register> register and register as a new user. (Attached is a user guide for your reference)

Ordering closes – 10.00am on the day prior (Tuesday).

-All orders will be delivered in separate class cartons, and each lunch will be clearly labelled. Parental Support is available via the link below or using the HELP function on the website –

Parents will first need to create a Canteen Hub Account -

<https://parentsupport.canteenhub.com/portal/en/kb/canteenhub> and register as a new user. (Attached is a user guide for your reference)



In recognition of the important role schools play in supporting the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people, the Murdoch Children's Research Institute and the Melbourne Graduate School of Education developed the Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHIPS) program.

Ardeer PS has been implementing components of the program including assigning a mental health and wellbeing leader (MHWL) to implement a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing for students, staff and families. The MHWL is not a clinical role. Rather, the role is designed as a preventative to mental health concerns and to promote pathways to support students.

Hollie Winfield is Ardeer's MHWL. MHWLs are qualified teachers who receive training from the Faculty of Education at the University of Melbourne, and professional development through learning communities.

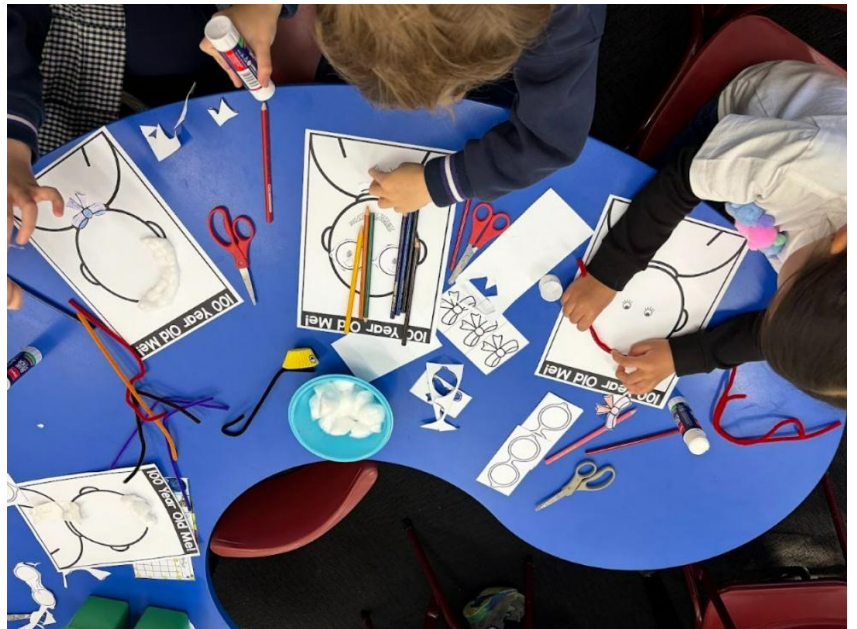
As the year progresses, the MHWL will work to:

- Build the capacity of school staff, in particular classroom teachers, to identify and support students with mental health concerns in the classroom
- Provide support to staff to better identify and support students with mental health needs
- Maintain clear pathways for referral for students requiring assessment and intervention and monitor and evaluate student progress

Message from Hollie Winfield: I am very excited to have taken on the MHWL role and look forward to continuing my work with classroom teachers, students and families to support students' mental health needs, as necessary. I am keen to develop my skills and knowledge further and as the year goes on, I will share material that you may find supportive. If you see me out in the yard, please come and say hello, it would be great to meet more of the wonderful families who make up our school community.

100 AMAZING DAYS OF SCHOOL

The students in Grade P/1A celebrated 100 amazing days of school last week. It has been incredible watching you grow as learners. We look forward to seeing this continue for many more years to come!



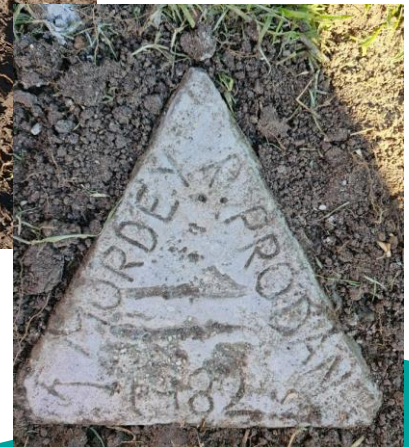
AMPITHEATRE REFURBISHMENT

Over the recent Term 2 school holidays, a new amphitheatre and surface were installed.

The previous amphitheatre, which featured a very similar design, was constructed by parents of the school community in 1982. Below is a photograph of the original concrete foundation stone, which was located at the centre of the former paved area. The stone acknowledges the two parents believed to have built the original structure, F. Mordey and R. Prodan, and includes the year of its construction.

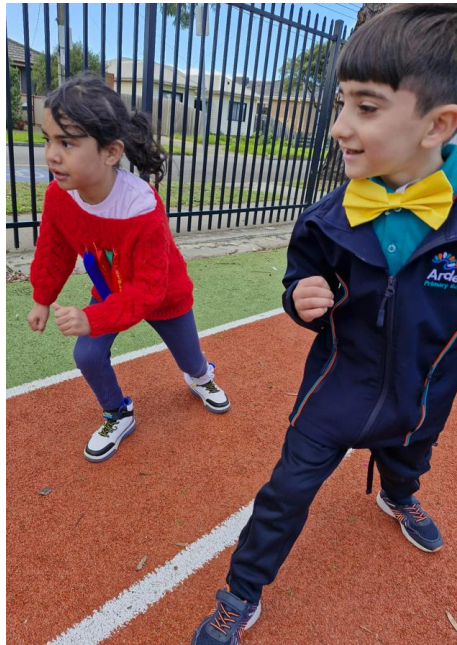
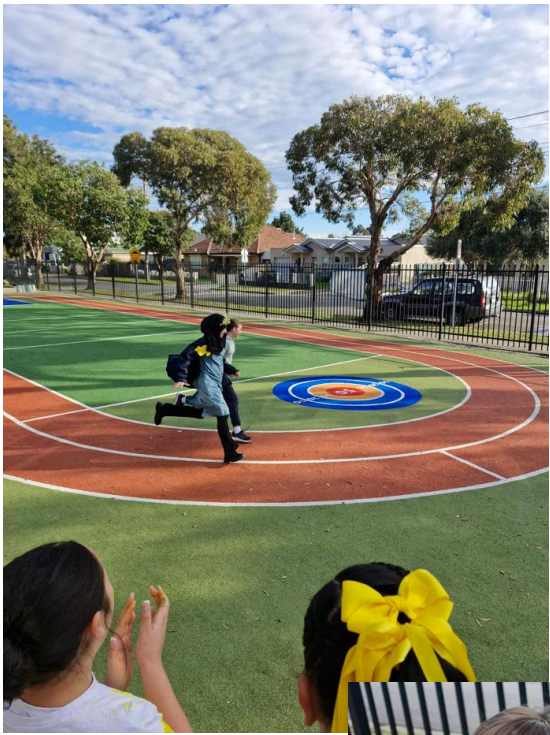
Unfortunately, over time the amphitheatre fell into disrepair and could no longer be used by our students. To honour its history, I preserved the original foundation stone, which has now been installed to the right of the new seating area as a lasting tribute to the contributions of these parents.

It was wonderful to see the new amphitheatre already being enjoyed by our students. Fittingly, the first class to use the space was our Prep/1A class during their special 100 Days of School celebration on Friday, 17 July 2026.



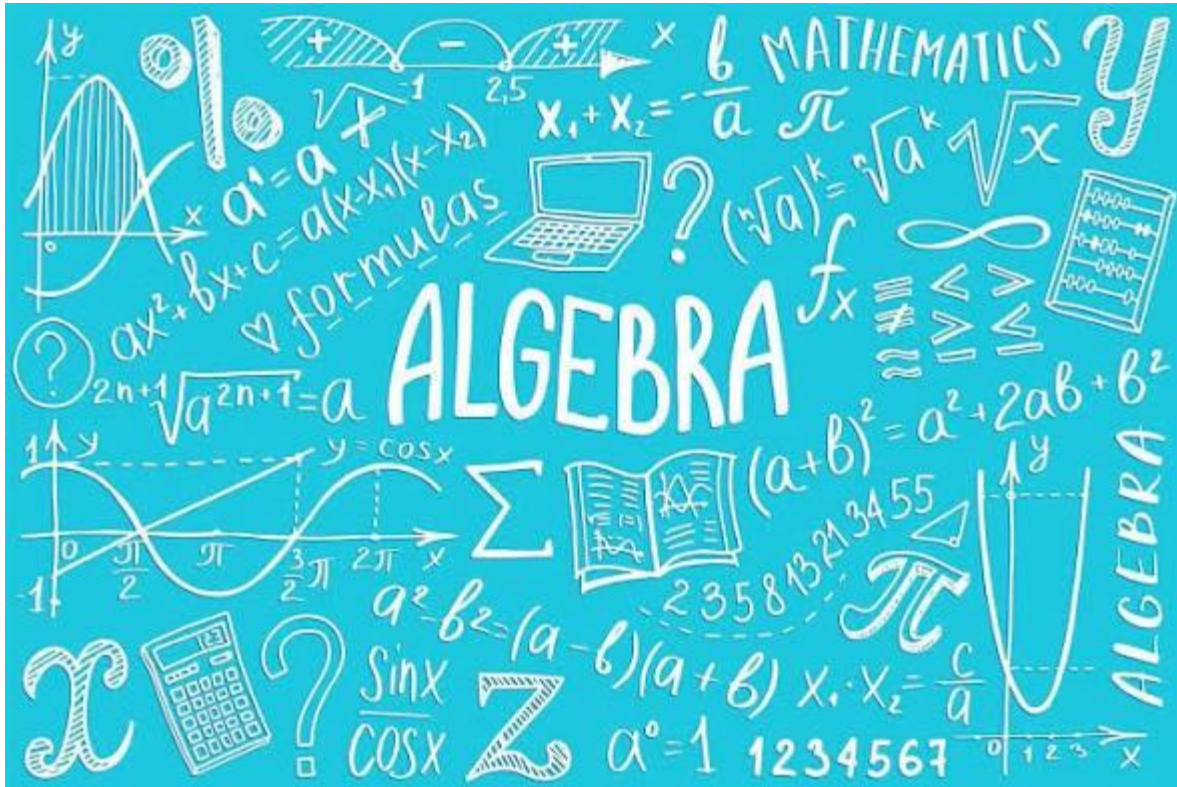
ATHLETICS DAY 2026

We were very fortunate with the weather for our annual whole school Athletics Day event. My thanks to Tim Pham for organising the day and to all the staff for your support in making it a success. I know the students had a great time! You may have noted that the event was brought forward earlier this year, and this was to align with the upcoming district athletics day scheduled for August 21, 2026. We are planning to select a small group of students to represent our school at the event. Along with the regular P.E program, our whole school Athletics Day helps support Tim Pham to select a suitable team for the various events.



TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- (NUMERACY)

ALGEBRA AT HOME



FUN ACTIVITIES FOR EACH YEAR LEVEL

Algebra is much more than letters and equations. In the Victorian Curriculum Version 2.0, students develop algebraic thinking by recognising patterns, finding rules, identifying relationships and making generalisations. These simple activities help children strengthen these skills at home.

Foundation

1. Pattern Hunt – Create repeating patterns using toys, blocks or fruit (e.g. red, blue, red, blue).
2. Nature Patterns – Collect leaves, sticks or rocks and make an AB, AAB or ABC pattern.
3. Movement Patterns – Clap, jump, clap, jump. Ask your child to continue or invent a new pattern.
4. Sock Sorting – Sort socks by colour, size or pattern and explain the rule.
5. What Comes Next? – Draw or build a simple repeating pattern and predict the next three items.

Year 1

1. Growing Towers – Build towers with 2, 4, 6, 8 blocks. Predict the next tower.
2. Skip Counting Walk – Count by 2s, 5s and 10s while walking or climbing stairs.
3. Number Pattern Detective – Continue patterns such as 15, 17, 19...
4. Make Your Own Pattern – Create a number or picture pattern for someone else to solve.

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- (NUMERACY)

Year 2

1. Missing Number Challenge – Solve $\square + 9 = 16$ or $25 - \square = 11$.
2. Number Machine – Choose a rule (e.g. +5) and apply it to different numbers.
3. Pattern Builder – Continue patterns that increase or decrease by 2, 5 or 10.
4. Coin Patterns – Arrange coins to make repeating or growing patterns.
5. Guess My Rule – Give outputs and have family members work out the rule.

Year 3

1. Input–Output Tables – Complete tables and identify the rule.
2. Growing Patterns – Build patterns with matchsticks or blocks and predict future steps.
3. What's the Rule? – Create number sequences such as 4, 8, 12, 16.
4. True or False? – Decide if equations such as $18 + 7 = 20 + 5$ are true.
5. Pattern Walk – Find repeating and growing patterns around your neighbourhood.

Year 4

1. Step Patterns – Build growing patterns and predict Step 10.
2. Rule Detective – Describe number patterns using words.
3. Equivalent Equations – Create different equations with the same answer.
4. Table Challenge – Fill in missing numbers using a rule.
5. Family Number Machine – Create a two-step rule (e.g. $\times 2$ then $+3$).

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- (NUMERACY)

Year 5

1. Number Machines – Create multi-step rules and challenge family members.
2. Pattern Predictions – Predict the 20th or 50th term in a growing pattern.
3. Function Tables – Complete input-output tables using multiplication and addition rules.
4. Balance the Equation – Solve equations with missing numbers (e.g. $\square \times 6 = 48$).
5. Real-Life Rules – Write a rule for calculating the cost of multiple movie tickets or ice creams.

Year 6

1. Formula Fun – Write rules for everyday situations (e.g. total cost = price $\times$ number of items).
2. Design a Pattern – Create a growing pattern and explain the relationship.
3. Solve and Explain – Complete equations with unknown values and justify your thinking.
4. Table of Values – Create input-output tables and describe the rule using words or symbols.
5. Family Challenge – Invent a real-world problem that follows a mathematical rule and see if your family can identify it.

Maths Talk Prompts

Use these questions during every activity:

- What pattern do you notice?
- What is the rule?
- How do you know?
- Can you predict what comes next?
- Will your rule always work? Why?

Spending just 10 minutes a few times each week exploring patterns and rules helps children develop the algebraic thinking that underpins future success in mathematics.

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- (LITERACY)

Building Literacy Through Language Experiences

Children learn to read and write more successfully when they can connect new learning to things they already know. This is called prior knowledge. Prior knowledge includes a child's experiences, vocabulary, memories and understanding of the world. The more children know about a topic, the easier it is for them to understand books, learn new words and communicate their ideas.



What are language experiences? Language experiences are everyday opportunities for children to talk, listen, observe, ask questions and share ideas. They can include:

- visiting the park, zoo, beach, shops or library
- cooking, gardening or completing household jobs
 - talking about family celebrations
 - listening to stories, songs and rhymes
- discussing photographs or television programs
- retelling something that happened during the day.

These experiences help children build knowledge and vocabulary before they encounter similar ideas in a book or classroom lesson.

For example, a child who has planted seeds, watered a garden and watched plants grow will already understand words such as *soil*, *roots*, *stem*, *seedling* and *sprout*. When the child later reads an information text about plants, these words and ideas are more meaningful. The child can connect the information in the book with a real experience.

Prior knowledge supports children to:

Understand what they read: Children can make connections between a text and their own experiences.

Language experiences also strengthen oral language. Through conversation, children practise listening, taking

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- (LITERACY CONT)

Learn new vocabulary: New words are easier to understand when they are connected to familiar objects, actions and ideas.

Make predictions and inferences: Children use what they already know to work out what might happen next or understand information that is not directly stated.

Speak and write in more detail: Experiences give children ideas to discuss, describe and write about.

Remember new learning: Information is more likely to be remembered when it connects with existing knowledge.

Language experiences also strengthen oral language. Through conversation, children practise listening, taking turns, asking questions, explaining their thinking and using complete sentences. These skills provide an important foundation for reading comprehension and writing.

How families can help...Families do not need expensive activities or special resources to build prior knowledge. Everyday experiences can provide rich opportunities for learning.

While cooking, talk about ingredients, measurements, changes in texture and the order of each step. During a walk, notice signs, plants, buildings, vehicles and weather. At the supermarket, discuss categories of food, labels, prices and where products come from.



After an experience, encourage your child to talk about it. Helpful questions include:

- What did you notice?
 - What happened first, next and last?
 - What was new or interesting?
 - Can you describe what you saw?
- Did it remind you of something we have read?

Reading together is another valuable way to build knowledge. Before reading, look at the title and pictures and discuss what your child already knows. Explain unfamiliar words during the story and talk about new information afterwards. Information books, picture books, maps, recipes and instructions can all support literacy development.

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- (LITERACY CONT)

Most importantly, regular conversations matter. When children are encouraged to share their ideas and ask questions, they develop confidence as speakers, readers and writers. By talking about everyday experiences, families help children build the knowledge and language they need for success at school.



Ardeer
Primary School

Igniting Minds. Inspiring Excellence.

Taking 2027 Enrolments Now

- Safe, caring and inclusive environment
- Strong literacy and numeracy outcomes
 - Dedicated, high-quality teachers
 - Individual attention for every child
 - Outstanding wellbeing supports
 - A welcoming school community

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WOMEN'S WELLBEING GROUP

FOR COMMUNITIES FROM BURMA



**JOIN US WEEKLY
WEDNESDAYS 10AM - 12PM
WYNDHAM PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE**

*Free program Open to ALL women from Burma, starting on
22nd April 2026. To register, please contact Ruth 0487 082 753
or Diana 0426 970 828.*

GET CONNECTED



Please follow us on Instagram

Ardeer.PS



All families were sent letters with their own unique code. Please download the Compass app and connect ASAP. Important reminders, updates, letters, notes etc. will be circulated via this platform throughout 2022. Please contact the office if you require a new sign in.



All families should now be connected to their child's 2022 class. This is a wonderful platform to see your child's learning progression as you connect with their learning portfolio. If you have not connected and require a new sign in code, please see your child's teacher ASAP.